



Daily Report

East Asia

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Tuesday
9 April 1991

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More on IDB Session in Japan

IDB Session Closes With Call for More Investment

OW0904075791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Nagoya, April 9 KYODO—The Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] closed a three-day session in Nagoya on Tuesday with a call for enhanced private investment in Latin American countries.

The governor of the Bank of Japan, Yasushi Mieno, urged advanced nations to provide active support to help Latin American nations ease their external debt burden.

To attain this goal, Mieno said in a closing speech, it is important for private enterprises to increase development promotion investment in these countries.

Japan earlier pledged active support for the establishment of an investment fund for improvement of infrastructure in the region to attract greater foreign investment.

The issue will be discussed at meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the Group of Seven economic powers later this month.

Japan and the United States remained at odds on whether to provide new loans to indebted nations to help them reduce their debts.

The next session of the IDB will be held next year in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic.

IDB President Enrique Iglesias said in his closing speech a debate was made during the session regarding the IDB's role in supporting the private sector, but said no consensus was reached.

He said participating governors supported the Washington-based regional bank's role in external debt and debt service reduction, helping social sectors, poverty alleviation, support for the role of women in development, and environmental conservation.

Some nonregional countries requested a greater share of the bank's capital, and hence a larger say in the bank's policy, Iglesias said. He later told reporters the issue will be up to present shareholders.

The IDB president said Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori's request for help to restore his country's ties with international financial institutions was well received, and Peru will soon meet its creditors for further talks on normalization of lending relations.

Iglesias also said the Brazilian Government has reached an agreement with a consortium of private creditor banks on conditions of arrear payments, adding the IDB contributed towards their mending of ties.

Further on Peruvian President's Talks

OW0804141991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT
8 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Japan will continue regarding Peru as the "top priority country" for Japanese economic assistance among Latin American countries, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori on Monday, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

Nakayama made the remark in a 20-minute meeting with Fujimori, who is in Japan to attend the annual Inter-American Development Bank meeting that opened in Nagoya on Sunday.

Officials said Nakayama hailed Fujimori's efforts to implement structural adjustments aimed at restoring economic stability in Peru.

Nakayama added Japan intends to continue facilitating those efforts as Peru is the top priority target for Japanese aid among Latin American countries.

In fiscal 1989, which ended in March 1990, Japan provided Peru with technological and other assistance totaling 3.52 billion yen.

Since coming to office last year, Fujimori has introduced an array of belt-tightening measures that have brought down inflation but have also caused discontent among many Peruvians who have seen their real earnings decline.

Officials said Fujimori noted the host of problems his government faces were mostly inherited from the previous administration.

He vowed greater efforts to reconstruct Peru's shattered economy and said priority is being placed on ending Peru's isolation from the international financial community.

Fujimori said Peru needs U.S. and Japanese help to open the way to an infusion of funds to tackle the various problems faced.

The debt-strapped South American country was cut off from fresh funds in 1988 after the then president, Alan Garcia, suspended payments on some 20 billion dollars of foreign debts the previous year.

Nakayama said he believes an informal meeting Fujimori had Sunday in Nagoya with creditor nations and multilateral institutions, including Japan, is the first step toward resolving Peru's economic difficulties.

Fujimori reiterated his gratitude for Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's pledge in talks earlier in the day that Japan will provide an additional 36 million yen worth of medical assistance to help combat the cholera epidemic that has killed some 780 Peruvians.

The sum is in addition to 35 million yen worth of medicine provided in February, shortly after the epidemic broke out.

Fujimori said the cholera outbreak has taken its toll not only in human lives but on the economy.

Fujimori visited Japan last year as president-elect but this was his first trip to Japan since taking office in July.

Ends Visit, Leaves for PRC

*OW0904033391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0249 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 (KYODO)—Peru's President Alberto Fujimori left Japan on Tuesday after a five-day visit and headed for China, the second and last destination on his Asian tour.

Fujimori attended the annual session of the Inter-American Development Bank held in Nagoya, central Japan, and called for international assistance by creditor nations to help Peru clear its 22 billion dollars of accumulated debts.

The president, the world's first head of state of Japanese descent outside Japan, also met Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who agreed with him on the need to form a special international forum to seek solutions to the huge external debts of Peru, which has been cut off from new aid since 1988.

Fujimori will meet Chinese officials in Beijing before departing for home on Friday, officials at the Peruvian Embassy in Tokyo said.

Japan

Japan To Send Relief Team, Aid to Iran

OW0904103691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1014 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan will send a survey team to Iran this week to assess the food needs of Kurdish, Shiite and other Iraqi refugees fleeing to Iran, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

Spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters Japan will also provide Iraqi refugees with "several tens of millions of yen" worth of emergency supplies such as tents, blankets, medicines, and dried milk.

The five-member survey team will consist of a doctor, nurse, linguist and two government aid specialists. Based on their assessment, Japan is also prepared to dispatch more medical personnel, he said.

Watanabe said the aid would be sent to an airport in the province of Bakhtaran, where the Iranian Foreign Ministry estimates there are some 400,000 refugees. Another 300,000 refugees have reportedly come across the border into other parts of Iran.

The head of Iran's Red Crescent Society said 771,850 Iraqi refugees had crossed the border as of mid-afternoon Monday and that the figure is soon expected to reach 1.5 million.

Watanabe said Iran has informed Japan that many refugees, including women and children, have already died crossing the chilly mountain passes along the border.

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement last Friday urging Iraq to immediately stop its "inhumane actions against its nationals," and allow refugees to return home without fear of reprisal.

Keidanren Calls for Minesweeping Mission in Gulf

OW0804110991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1053 GMT
8 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) took an unusual move Monday, urging the government to dispatch minesweepers to the Persian Gulf as part of Japan's contribution to peace in the region.

Keidanren said the appeal was based on an agreement reached at a meeting Monday of its chairman and vice chairmen.

The request, made in the name of Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa, said it is a reasonable peacetime act for Japan to engage in removing nearly 1,000 mines laid in the Gulf by Iraqi forces during the war.

It said no legal problems would arise from the action.

The document noted that Germany, which, like Japan, made only a financial contribution to the war effort, has joined the international mission to clear the Gulf of Iraqi-laid mines.

"We would like the prime minister to make a political decision on the question," Hiraiwa said.

The government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has so far withheld a decision on the issue pending negotiations between the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and opposition parties.

PLO Representative Remarks on Iraqi Situation

OW0704075691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0734 GMT
7 Apr 91

[Text] Osaka, April 7 KYODO—The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representative to Tokyo on Saturday accused the United States of interfering in the conflict between the Iraqi Government and the Kurdish minority in Iraq.

Bakr 'Abd-al-Mun'im said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE here that the Iraqi people can coexist peacefully regardless of race or religious persuasion.

Mun'im also said the United States is trying to meddle in the conflict but that such moves would not benefit the Iraqi people.

Reports from Iran said an estimated 1.5 million Kurds are fleeing toward Iran and another 220,000 to Turkey, following a failed Kurdish uprising against the Baghdad Government.

Asked whether the PLO is losing its leadership after the Persian Gulf war, Mun'im said the Palestinian people is acting in a body, adding that French President Francois Mitterrand regards the PLO as their representative organization.

Mun'im called for Japan's understanding of the Palestinian issue at a meeting held by a Japanese civic group in Osaka on Saturday, saying the settlement of the problem will bring peace in the Middle East.

Israeli Police Minister Begins Tokyo Visit

Meets With Foreign Minister

OW0804130191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Nakayama met today with Israeli Police Minister Roni Milo, who is the first Israeli cabinet member to visit Japan since the end of the Gulf war. At the meeting, Foreign Minister Nakayama formally notified the Israeli minister that he would like to visit Israel at the earliest possible date this year to exchange views with Israeli officials on bringing peace to the Middle East. The Israeli police minister, who is visiting Japan at the invitation of the Japanese Government, met with Foreign Minister Nakayama at the

Foreign Ministry this afternoon. During the meeting, Foreign Minister Nakayama said: Japan will make contributions to bringing about peace in the Middle East. Japan wants to promote political dialogue with Israel. To that end, I plan to visit Israel at the earliest date this year. In response, Minister Milo said: Israel attaches importance to improving relations with Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Syria to bring peace to the Middle East, following the end of the Gulf War. Israel also considers promoting dialogue with the Palestinians. I welcome your plan to visit our nation.

Further on Nakayama Meeting

*OW0804130391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1238 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Monday called the Arab economic boycott of Israel an "obstacle to international trade" and pledged to visit the Jewish state at the earliest possible opportunity, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said Nakayama made the remarks in a meeting with Israeli Minister of Police Roni Miro, who is in Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry.

They said Milo conveyed to Nakayama a message from Israeli Foreign Minister David Levi that he looks forward to an early meeting in Israel with his Japanese counterpart.

Nakayama, while lamenting the Arab economic boycott against Israel, pointed out that the volume of trade between Japan and Israel is increasing.

Two-way trade has doubled over the past five years, reaching 1.42 billion dollars in 1990.

Milo said Israel hopes to further strengthen its economic ties with Japan and added he plans to have official talks with Japanese trading firms before leaving Tokyo, according to the officials.

Nakayama commended Israel for exercising restraint while under attack from Iraqi Scud missiles in the Persian Gulf war and pointed to an urgent need for all parties to exert greater efforts in tackling the problems of the Middle East region.

Asked by Nakayama what Arab countries Israel is prepared to deal with to facilitate the peace process, Milo replied that Israel feels it can most easily talk with those countries it does not share borders with, namely Saudi Arabia and other Arab states in the Persian Gulf region.

But he said it is even more crucial for Israel to have constructive bilateral dialogues with neighboring Jordan and Syria. He said relations with Palestinians are likewise important.

Asked by Nakayama about Israel's view of the present situation in Iraq, Milo said while it is hard to predict

with any certainty, it seems as if Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn is going to recoup most of his power with help of his army.

Milo said more important than whether Saddam Husayn remains in power or not, is what relationship whichever leader is in power in Iraq has with the Iraqi Army.

Officials said he meant that if someone new were to assume the leadership of Iraq, secure control over the army, and pursue the same policy direction as before, then it would not really matter whether Saddam Husayn stays or goes.

Political analysts noted that Milo's remarks were in contrast to Israeli Government leaders' remarks during and after the Gulf war stressing the necessity of Husayn's departure.

Tokyo To Provide \$10 Million to Kurdish Refugees

*OW0604065491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0633 GMT
6 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—The Japanese Government has decided to provide emergency financial assistance of 10 million dollars to Kurdish and other refugees fleeing Iraq for Turkey and Iran, officials said Saturday.

Japan decided to provide the assistance in response to a request by the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator's Office (UNDO) and other related international organizations.

The amount will be disbursed from the reserve portion of the 38 million dollars Japan contributed last January to UNDO for refugee relief in the Middle East, the officials said.

The aid will be used to buy foods, blankets, tents, and other items, the officials said.

About 70,000 refugees have fled from Iraq to Iran and 10,000 to Turkey, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Nakayama Leaves for 3-Day Visit to PRC

*OW0504113891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1131 GMT
5 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 5 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left for Beijing on Friday on a three-day visit to pave the way for Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's trip to China.

Nakayama is the first Japanese Foreign Minister to visit China since high-level visits were suspended in the aftermath of the June 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown on the pro-democracy movement.

He was scheduled to meet with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd shortly after arrival Friday night.

He will meet with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen, Premier Li Peng, and Vice Premier Wu Xueqian on Saturday.

Nakayama on Saturday will also meet with Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing to promote a recent Japanese peace initiative aimed at breaking the impasse between the four Cambodian factions over a United Nations Security Council peace plan.

Nakayama is expected to press China to curtail its arms exports and work to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the wake of the Persian Gulf war.

He made a similar request to Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh in Tokyo on March 29.

Nakayama, following up on requests made to Bessmertnykh and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker a week before, is likely to ask Hurd and the Chinese leaders to endorse a revision of the 1945 U.N. Charter deleting references to Japan and other countries vanquished in World War II as "enemy states."

He is also expected to call for China's support of Japan's demand that the Soviet Union recognize Japanese sovereignty over four islands in its northern extremities that Moscow occupied and annexed after Japan's surrender in World War II.

Officials Nakayama will tell Li Peng of Kaifu's intention to visit China within the year, as well as Japan's hope to have the visit reciprocated.

Nakayama is the fourth Japanese cabinet minister to visit China since the 1989 crackdown of the pro-democracy movement in China. His visit comes just after that of International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, who went there from March 20-24.

PRC Coverage of Nakayama's Beijing Visit

WA0904133091

For PRC and other coverage of Nakayama's visit to Beijing, including talks with Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen and with Chinese Premier Li Peng, please see the International Affairs section of the 8 April China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Gorbachev Visit to Nagasaki Viewed

OW0804144491 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1317 GMT 8 Apr 91

[From the "NHK News 21" program]

[Text] President Gorbachev's visit to Nagasaki City on the final day of his stay in Japan, which will begin on 16 April, has become a focus in finalizing his schedule. The government has formally decided that the president would visit the city and the Foreign Ministry has informed the Soviet side of this decision.

The government has been examining President Gorbachev's visit to the city because of his strong desire to pay a visit to the graves of Russians in Nagasaki. However, officials within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party have expressed objections to the president's visit

to the city, contending that it might have an adverse impact on the unified local elections. For this reason, consultations about the president's visit to the city have been underway between the two countries.

Prisoner of War Issue Awaits Gorbachev Visit

OW0904041691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0135 GMT 9 Apr 91

[By Keiichi Hirose]

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 (KYODO)—As Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's historic April 16-19 trip to Japan nears and attention in Tokyo rivets on a possible settlement of a bilateral territorial dispute, another World War II legacy awaits his visit—the detention and deaths of Japanese prisoners of war at labor camps in Siberia.

Like Japan's claim to the four north Pacific islands the Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II, the POW issue has marred Japan's relations with the Soviet Union and sown the seed of distrust of the giant communist neighbor among the Japanese.

Of the 600,000 or so Japanese POWs held in Siberia after the war, over 60,000 died, and many others were crippled physically and emotionally by hardship, hunger, and diseases.

Gorbachev, the first Kremlin leader to visit Japan, has vowed to close what he called a "sad chapter" in bilateral relations.

The Kremlin leader has promised to bring with him a list of Japanese prisoners of war who died in Siberia, data which Japanese have been seeking in vain for decades.

Also, in an apparent act of atonement for the death of POWs, Gorbachev plans to visit the graves of Japanese POWs during a stopover in the Siberian city of Khabarovsk on his way to Japan.

There is also speculation that while in Japan Gorbachev may express regret over the POW episode, which many Japanese regard as one of the darkest chapters in Japanese-Soviet history.

While many in Japan think the country has done something wrong to the people of Asia it invaded in the first half of this century, the feeling toward the Soviet Union is different.

"The Soviet Union has turned out to be the one country we have been unjustifiably treated by," said a Foreign Ministry official in charge of Soviet affairs.

To many Japanese, the Soviet Union stabbed Japan in the back, breaking a neutrality pact and declaring war on Japan on August 8, 1945—two days after the United States dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

Like Soviet participation in the war, the Japanese believe the Soviet Union had no justification to keep more than 600,000 Japanese prisoners, some for as long as 11 years.

and put them to work at hard labor, digging mines, building railways, and cutting forests.

While in captivity, many died of malnutrition, physical and psychological exhaustion, and diseases.

To those who returned, like former soldier Tokio Watanabe, the Siberian experience was full of bitter, "undescribable" memories that time has not erased.

Watanabe, now 73 and an active lobbyist of the All-Japan Former Internees Association, the largest Siberian POW group in Japan with 70,000 members nationwide, says that at the logging camp where he was detained for three years his comrades kept dying from starvation, lice-borne fever, frostbite, and death by falling logs.

Dead bodies were often thrown in a hole in the mud without tombstones. "I was put in charge of burying the bodies of my deceased friends," Watanabe says.

Food was so scarce, says another former Siberian POW, that a matchbox-size piece of bread was in some cases all there was for a meal and detainees looked in garbage boxes for any edible scraps or ate animals or insects.

Other veterans spoke of Soviet deception, remembering how the surrendered and disarmed Japanese soldiers in Manchuria were lured to take the trains to Siberia by being told they were on their way home.

During 11 years of detention, over 60,000 Japanese POWs perished, most of them in Soviet labor camps and some in Mongolia, the Soviet Union's wartime ally. The remains of the deceased were not returned to Japan, except for a very few senior commanders. For those who were buried locally, their burial places were mostly left unmarked and unattended.

According to Watanabe's veterans group, 45,000 POWs suffered serious physical and mental damage from the hard labor. Back home, many returned veterans faced job and other social discrimination for their POW experience because surrender was taboo under the imperial Japanese army code.

The Japanese Siberian POW episode was never fully explained, either by the government in Tokyo or in Moscow.

Over the years, suspicions grew, nurtured by official silence.

Some historians, both Japanese and, more recently, Soviet, suspect the Soviets under Joseph Stalin held the Japanese POWs out of a desire for vengeance for the defeat of czarist Russia in the 1904-1905 Russo-Japanese War and the Japanese military invasion of Siberia in 1918-1925 shortly after the birth of the communist nation.

Some veterans like Yoshiya Kai, 66, suspect there might have been a confidential Japan-Soviet agreement on the

detention after the Japanese wartime government desperately enlisted Soviet help around June 1945 to bring the war to an end.

One of the conditions for the Soviet mediation, Kai said, was for the Japanese Army to provide labor to the Soviet Union after the end of hostilities.

The Japanese Government denies the conspiracy theory, but otherwise sheds little light on what really happened. And to the chagrin of the veterans, Tokyo agreed to relinquish all government-to-government claims of compensation against Moscow when the two countries agreed to resume diplomatic relations in 1956.

Siberian POWs were given a silver cup and 100,000 yen beginning in 1990, as a Japanese Government official explained, "to comfort the hardship." Dissatisfied with the Japanese Government's treatment of the POWs, a group of 62 former Siberian detainees filed a lawsuit in 1981, demanding that the government pay them national compensation for forced labor and physical damage.

The Tokyo District Court turned down the claim, and the legal tussle is now in the hands of a higher court. In rejecting the claims, the Tokyo government has said Soviet authorities had never issued labor certificates to the POWs.

Reflecting the new mood in Japanese-Soviet ties, Soviet officials now indicate they might issue labor certificates to those detainees who need them, if "it is not too late."

Diet Urges Early Return of Soviet-Held Islands

*OW0904123191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1202 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The Diet, or Japanese parliament, on Tuesday called for an early return of four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido.

On the eve of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's April 16-19 visit to Japan, both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors unanimously passed resolutions urging the government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to make its best efforts to obtain the return of the islands and to conclude a peace treaty with the Soviet Union.

The 512-seat lower chamber said in its resolution that it welcomes Gorbachev's visit, the first by a Kremlin chief, as a chance to realize direct talks between leaders of the two countries.

The resolution urges settlement of the territorial issue, conclusion of a peace treaty, and establishment of a truly stable relationship of peace and friendship, which it said would lead to a "great development of cooperative ties" between the two nations.

Gorbachev is scheduled to address a plenary session of the lower house on the second day of his four-day visit.

During his stay in Tokyo, he is due to hold at least three rounds of talks with Kaifu and the territorial dispute is expected to be high on their agenda.

The 252-seat upper house also said in its resolution that it expects Gorbachev's visit will serve as a breakthrough in improving bilateral relations.

The resolution urges the government to hold vigorous direct talks with Gorbachev during his stay and to devote its energies to realize Japan's long-cherished desire for the return of the four islands—referred to as the "northern territories" in Japan—while establishing a truly peaceful and friendly relationship between the two nations.

Japan has long called for the return of the islands—Kunashiri, Shikotan, Etorofu, and the Habomai Group—which the Soviets occupied in the closing days of World War II.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said he will negotiate with the Soviets with the resolutions well in mind.

The House of Representatives has previously passed 14 similar resolutions calling for an early return of the islands, while the House of Councillors has passed nine such resolutions.

Transport Ministry To Improve Soviet System

*OW0804150291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1444 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The Japanese Transport Ministry, spinoffs of the former Japanese national railways, and Nippon Express Co. on Monday drew up a plan to help improve the Soviet distribution system, government sources said.

The plan calls mainly for the supply by East Japan Railway Co. and Japan Freight Railway Co. of about 1,000 used passenger coaches, freight cars, and diesel cars to the Soviet Union virtually without charge.

The plan also provides for the invitation of a Soviet distribution system study team to Japan.

As a first step, East Japan Railway Co. (JR-East) will offer 50 used passenger coaches and about 150 used diesel cars, and Japan Freight Railway Co. (JR-Freight) 100 used boxcars to Sakhalin, where the railways are of the same gauge as Japan's, the sources said.

JR-East and JR-Freight will rebuild passenger coaches and freight cars so that they may be used at temperatures up to 50 C below zero before delivery to the Soviet side.

JR-East and JR-Freight will negotiate with Soviet working-level officials over the number of railway vehicles to be delivered and the rebuilding and sea transportation costs when they come here in late April, following a visit to Japan by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Under the plan, a team of 40-50 Soviet working-level railway and other officials will be invited to Japan in late May or early June for a 20-day study of the distribution system.

The Soviet experts will visit mainly the distribution center of Nippon Express Co., Japan's largest trucking firm, and JR's train command center and bullet train facilities.

The distribution system improvement plan was drawn up after a study of the Soviet distribution system in January by a Japanese government-industry team in response to a Soviet request.

Business Leaders To Promise Aid to USSR

*OW0904130091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1131 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan's business leaders agreed Tuesday to promise technological aid to the Soviet Union to spur its transformation into a market-oriented economy during Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan next week.

The agreement came at a meeting of the heads of seven major business and trade organizations, including Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and Yohei Mimura, chairman of the Japan Foreign Trade Council.

The planned assistance is intended to help the Soviets shift to a consumer demand-oriented economy from a defense demand-oriented one, to introduce the price mechanism, and to make use of dormant plants.

At a planned meeting with Gorbachev on April 17, the business leaders will also press the Soviet leader to redress the issue of payment arrears for Japanese imports and to clarify the vague relations between the Soviet Union and its constituent republics, problems which are partly responsible for the languishing trade between the two countries.

Belgian Official Urges Stronger Ties

*OW0404131391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT
4 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 4 KYODO—Europe and Japan should strengthen their relationship and work with the United States to help shape the world in the post-cold war period, a high-ranking Belgian official said in Tokyo on Thursday.

Willy Claes, Belgium's deputy prime minister and minister of economic affairs, stressed the importance of reinforcing the "European-Japanese side of the triangular relations between Japan, the U.S. and Europe."

He urged cooperation between the European Community (EC) and Japan on issues concerning international security, human rights, terrorism, ecology, and arms control, as well as on aid to the Third World.

Formal political negotiations on such issues between the EC and Japan will probably be approved by the EC Council of Ministers on April 15, he told a press conference.

The minister, on his second visit to Japan, said he has met with Emperor Akihito, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao.

Describing Belgium's current ties with Japan as "excellent," he said fruitful results have been achieved in trade and economic areas since his last visit in 1989.

"Our trade is expanding and, although still largely imbalanced, we are moving towards greater equilibrium," he said.

"We appreciate Japan's efforts to further open its market to foreign goods and services, and we would like to see even more initiatives in this area, specifically concerning the distribution system," Claes said.

In exporting to Japan, Belgium will concentrate on such sectors as machine tools and subcontracting for automobiles, he said.

Another welcome phenomenon during the two years since his last visit is the increasing Japanese investment in his country, the minister said.

Since 1989, 30 Japanese companies, including Japan's largest—Toyota Motor Corp.—have established foot-holds in Belgium, bringing the total to 200, he said.

Claes said that in his meeting with MITI chief Nakao, they had agreed to encourage Belgian-Japanese joint ventures and cooperation in third markets, particularly in Central and East European countries, where Belgium has more experience.

The minister repeatedly said the creation of a single EC market in 1992 will not mean the creation of a fortress designed to shut out Japanese competition, as some have criticized, and said the market will not be closed to Japanese cars.

Belgium has "never taken protective measures against Japanese cars," he said, calling the import quotas imposed on Japanese cars in some EC countries such as France and Italy "contrary to the spirit of the European market."

He said the EC commission is working on a proposal that would allow total liberalization of the auto industry after a five-year transition period.

"We are in favor of free trade, which means the same rules for everybody, on one condition—reciprocity," he said.

He called on Japan to open its financial markets after a due transition period, allowing Belgium's banks to enjoy the same treatment as Japanese banks do in Belgium.

Claes expressed interest in Nakao's views on controlling weapons exports, saying that, if his understanding is correct, Japan's proposals would include monitoring of export flows by the United Nations.

"We would welcome a Japanese initiative in this field," he said.

More on Visiting Malaysian Minister's Remarks

*OW0604081091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT
6 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 6 KYODO—Malaysia's proposed regional trade zone in East Asia would be a loose consultative forum, not the trade bloc some call it, Malaysia's International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz said Saturday.

"This proposal is not one to set up a trade block or an economic bloc, or any bloc of any kind," she said at a Tokyo press conference.

Rather, she said, the proposed East-Asian Economic Grouping (EAEG) is designed to band East Asian nations to discuss common concerns and join hands to boost the economic potential of the fast-growing region. "That is the first idea behind the concept of EAEG. Come on, sitting down to talk, not to form a bloc, but to talk."

Rafidah is in Tokyo to win Japanese support for the EAEG, put forward by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed last December, just after the breakdown of the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

EAEG would knit members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Japan, China, South Korea, and other East Asian countries into a loose grouping of trade partners.

She acknowledged there is concern that the EAEG would harm the larger Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which includes North America and Oceania as well as Asia.

Rafidah said, however, that the new group will not "sidestep the APEC or make it less important."

"In fact, if this kind of regional cooperation in the East Asian countries becomes more effective, it would actually enhance what the APEC wants to do," as would other trade groupings in North America and Oceania, she said.

She dismissed U.S. complaints about being excluded from the EAEG. "Because we are talking about the small regional group of East Asia, logically speaking, geographically speaking, the U.S. is not in East Asia."

But she said Malaysia has already begun consulting with Washington over the idea.

Partly conscious of Washington's critical view, the Japanese Government has been delaying action on the Malaysian invitation to join and play a key role in the proposed trade zone.

Eiichi Nakao, minister of International Trade and Industry, voiced caution about the EAEG in a meeting with Rafidah on Friday.

"Our basic position is that there is already APEC, and that includes the U.S., Australia, Canada, and New Zealand," Nakao said.

Rafidah said Tokyo's cool reaction to the proposal did not disappoint her because her mission is to explain the proposal, not to lobby for it.

She also said there is little reason to think Japan's involvement in the group would upset other nations, particularly China, by invoking bitter memories of Japan's wartime invasions.

"Frankly, I don't think people will linger too long in the past memories. People are very pragmatic ... We are talking about Japan as you are now," she said.

Rafidah also said if the concept becomes reality, Japan would serve as a conduit between the group and the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations so that they can indirectly take part in G-7 decisions, which affect the world economy.

Rafidah also rebuffed reports that China, along with Indonesia, is reluctant to join the group, saying she has been invited to brief the Chinese Government on the idea.

"We see interest in China," she said.

Japan To Provide Earthquake Relief to Peru

*OW0904124591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan will provide about 52.7 million yen worth of emergency aid to Peru to deal with damage caused by a major earthquake which struck the country last week, the Foreign Ministry announced Tuesday.

The ministry said the fund includes 300,000 dollars in cash and about 14 million yen in the form of medicines, blankets and other relief goods.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu personally informed Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori of the decision on Monday.

Fujimori was in Japan to attend a three-day session of the Inter-American Development Bank which closed in Nagoya Tuesday.

Fujimori left Japan on Tuesday for Beijing.

The relief goods will be offered to Peru through the government-affiliated Japan International Cooperation Agency, the ministry said.

Ministry To Review Rules for Banking Sector

*OW0804081691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0611 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The Finance Ministry will review rules on financial products by this autumn in a move which appears likely to tear down some of the barriers between short- and long-term banking, ministry sources said Monday.

The review will involve a relaxation of regulations governing financial products, whose offerings are now tightly regulated under the highly segmented banking system separating the short-term and long-term financing businesses, the sources said.

According to the sources, ideas now under discussion call for allowing commercial banks to take three-year large-lot time deposits, while permitting long-term credit banks to offer one-year debentures monthly.

These measures, if implemented, would give commercial banks, including the 11 major banks doing business nationwide known as "city banks," a tool for raising long-term funds.

At the same time it would provide long-term credit banks with a short-term means of fund-raising which they have long sought for stable fund procurements.

The review corresponds with the scheduled lowering in November of the minimum amount of regulation-free large-denomination time deposits to 3 million yen from the current 10 million yen, and comes as part of the ministry's efforts to reshape the nation's financial system.

At present, the banking sector is split into three long-term credit banks, seven trust banks, 11 city banks, 64 main regional banks, 66 smaller regional banks or second regional banks, and other smaller institutions.

The review will also encompass financial instruments offered by trust banks and securities companies, the sources said.

According to the sources, ideas now being examined call for allowing trust banks to offer five-year money trusts with expected yields tied to investment while giving the green light for securities firms to offer funds that invest in short-term bonds with subscriptions starting at 3 million yen.

Foreign Businessmen Ask for Access Improvement*OW0804131591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1228 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Excerpts] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—American and some other foreign businessmen on Monday asked Japan to act to improve foreign access to its markets with specific goals, officials said.

The request came at the first meeting of a new government-sponsored panel, the Import Board, which comprises an almost equal number of government officials, Japanese businessmen and foreign business executives, three of whom are Americans. [passage omitted]

The Trade Import Board is a product of bilateral trade negotiations known as the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII), which ended last June with Japan promising wide-ranging economic structural reforms so as to reduce its massive trade surplus with the United States.

Japan has run a trade surplus with the U.S. for the past 12 years, although the surplus narrowed 15.4 percent to 38 billion dollars, a record year-on-year drop, in calendar 1990. [passage omitted]

The Import Board, chaired by Yohei Mimura, chairman of Mitsubishi Corp., is to hold a meeting twice a year and submit a report on recommendations to the trade conference, a government panel on trade involving the prime minister, trade minister, and nine other cabinet ministers and a dozen Japanese business leaders.

Atomic Forum Head Calls for Review of Safety*OW0804080991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0636 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The chairman of the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum grouping the nuclear power industry called for a review of nuclear safety as the organization opened its three-day annual conference in Tokyo Monday on the theme of energy in the 1990s.

Jiro Enjoji made the call in an opening statement, while commenting on an accident last month at Kansai Electric Power Co. Mihama nuclear plant's No. 2 reactor in Fukui Prefecture, central Japan.

In the Mihama accident, a broken pipe allowed 55 tons of radioactive water to leak from the primary cooling system to the secondary system that powers the plant's turbine. This led to activation of the reactor's emergency core-cooling system, averting a possible meltdown of a reactor core.

"The accident shocked not only the nuclear power industry, but the public in general," Enjoji, who is also chairman of the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, Japan's leading economic daily, said. "We need a thorough review of nuclear safety."

Representatives from the Soviet Union, Europe, and the United States are attending the conference to discuss the

effects of the Swedish and Swiss policies of discontinuing nuclear power generation, the radiation effects of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union, and the future outlook for nuclear power.

Private Railway Workers Call Off Strike*OW0904004291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1514 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 (KYODO)—Major private railway workers unions late Monday called off Tuesday's 24-hour strike after a management offer of a 17,000 yen raise in monthly wages.

The General Federation of Private Railway Workers' Unions of Japan (Shitetsusoren) ordered 11 member unions to call off their planned strike late Monday night.

Labor-management negotiations were held up to late Monday night in a last-ditch effort to avert the walkout in this spring's labor offensive for higher wages.

Shitetsusoren had demanded a monthly wage raise of not less than 17,500 yen, the amount gained in the labor offensive last year.

The management wanted to hold it down to the 16,000 yen mark, citing the poor profit performance in the railway business.

Behind-the-scenes negotiations followed as the leaders of the 191,000-member labor federation agreed to reduce their demand to the 17,000 yen level.

The private railway companies which planned the walkout included Tobu, Tokyu, Keisei, and Keio in the metropolitan area, and Hankyu, Keihan, Hanshin, and Nankai in the Osaka District, as well as Nishitetsu in Kyushu.

Shinto Kogyo Acquires U.S. Steel Maker*OW0804112191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0956 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Tex] Nagoya, April 8 KYODO—Shinto Kogyo, Ltd., a major Japanese machinery maker, said Monday it has purchased a U.S. metal casting firm and launched a wholly owned new company to oversee operations of its three subsidiaries in the United States.

The company said the new firm, Shinto America, Inc., was incorporated in Lansing, Michigan, following its acquisition of Wixom Products, Inc., based in Wixom, in the same state.

The company did not disclose the purchase amount.

Wixom products, established in 1980, is a major plastic and metal moulding company with annual sales estimated at 700 million yen.

Shinto and Wixom will join forces to boost the production and marketing of cast machinery in the U.S., the company said.

Okinawa Governor Ota Gives Interview

OW0804081791 Naha NHK Television Network
in Japanese 1310 GMT 7 Apr 91

[Interview with Masahide Ota, governor of Okinawa Prefecture, by NHK reporter Hiroaki Sekita, in an office of the Okinawa prefectural government building; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Sekita] Mr. Governor, thank you very much for being with us today. I would like to ask you several questions regarding the tasks that Okinawa Prefecture faces. Four months have gone by since you were inaugurated as governor in December. First of all, can you explain your impressions of the past four months.

[Ota] First, I have been too busy. I do not have the leeway, physically as well as psychologically, to sit down and tackle the difficult issues that we face. This is my frank impression. Unlike researchers, politicians have to make decisions on the spot. In this regard, I feel that it is a very difficult task. I thought I understood this before, but now I truly understand the gravity of my responsibilities.

[Sekita] It is said that the prefectural government, in lieu of the central government, may carry out perusal of complaints by listening to opinions of landowners who refuse to sign a contract on the use of their land for bases. The public is very interested in knowing the Ota administration's stance regarding the bases issue. Can you explain your policy regarding this issue and how you, as governor, will make a decision?

[Ota] My campaign pledge was to create an Okinawa without military bases. Now, we have come to a point where landowners, who insist on denying use of their lands for military bases, do not want to sign a contract, and leaders of municipalities are also unwilling to give their consent. Thus, we have to make a careful study, from the legal and political viewpoints, of the question of whether or not we should carry out the perusal, ignoring these negative opinions. Moreover, the administration has its own clear stance. We have to maintain integrity while dealing with the issue. We need much more time. We are seriously studying the issue in the government, thus I cannot comment on whether or not we will carry out the perusal. However, we are now at the stage of developing a plan for the third 10-year buildup plan. It seems that the perusal of complaints is related to the issues, including base issues, that we have to study from various aspects. Externally, I think we can also say that it is an issue the central government or the competent authorities merely tossed to us as a matter entrusted to a governor for a certain period. However, the state of land used for military bases and base issues...[pauses] the issue of land used for military bases has continued to be a very big problem in Okinawa in the postwar period and

this is an issue that is too big to be treated as merely a matter entrusted to us for a certain period of time. This is my understanding. Thus, I need more time. Currently, I am exerting my efforts in order to make an appropriate decision while listening to the opinions of as many people as possible.

[Sekita] Regarding construction of a new airport, the site east of Mt. Kara was canceled and a process of selecting a new site from five candidate locations has started. Many people in Ishigaki City are doubtful if the prefectural government will be able to obtain agreement from the residents on the location of the new airport in two months or by the end of May. How do you answer this?

[Ota] I am about to start a full-dress tackling of the issue by assigning department chiefs to finding a settlement and establishing a task force. I shall increase the membership of this task force. In principle, the residents of Ishigaki agree that Ishigaki Airport should be constructed as soon as possible. They agree with the so-called outline of the plan but oppose the details because their interests are involved. They can one-sidedly ask the Government to carry out the project soon. However, we want to avoid forceful execution of the big project as much as possible. We want to obtain agreement from the people living there. There is a time limit, so that we want to somehow obtain an agreement by May. If we fail to reach an agreement, then this time will inevitably be extended. Therefore, we would like the people of Ishigaki to understand the position of the Government. I also would like to ask for their cooperation in the process of selecting a construction site.

[Sekita] Now, let us change the subject from the issue of a new airport to that of a female vice governor. A recent prefectural assembly session officially rejected your recommendation to appoint Kazumi Uezato to the vice governor's post. Are you planning to nominate another female, or it is going to be a male? Are you making progress in the process of looking for a candidate suitable for the post?

[Ota] The arrival of an aged society is inevitable in the future of Okinawa. In particular, Okinawa is known as one of the world's prominent places where people enjoy longevity. I strongly feel that we need women's help in taking good care of the old people. As I said earlier, an overwhelming number of women are actually working at protective institutions, other facilities for handicapped people, or special nursing homes. Because of that, I think it is necessary to nominate a female for the post of vice governor in order to be prepared for the arrival of an aged society in Okinawa. Or, I should say that a female vice governor is better than a male vice governor. We already have a male vice governor, who is superbly capable. We need a capable female vice governor who can settle the issue I have just mentioned. I strongly believe that the appointment of a female to the post of vice governor is better for the future society of Okinawa. Therefore, I have no plan to immediately appoint a male to the post, just because the nomination of Ms. Uezato

was rejected. I will try my best to appoint a female to the post of vice governor. I am studying the issue of selecting a suitable person, including the issue of Ms. Uezato.

[Sekita] Have you found a suitable person yet?

[Ota] Well, I am still studying, so that I cannot make an announcement at this stage.

[Sekita] Let us turn to your visit to the United States. In the beginning, you said you wanted to make the visit as early as February, but, because of the Gulf war, you have been putting it off. At the present moment, when are you planning to make the visit? And what are the requests you want to make?

[Ota] When General Gray, U.S. Marine Corps commandant, came here from Washington, I asked him whether I would be able to meet high-ranking U.S. officials if I visited Washington. He told me that, since the situation has calmed down quite considerably, he thought I would have a good chance. He was quite optimistic. Gen. Gray said he would be glad to meet me if I came to the United States. So, I am planning to go with a little brighter hope. Regarding timing, I want to choose a time when I shall be able to meet with as many officials as possible after thoroughly consulting with the U.S. ambassador and consul general here.

You asked me what requests I would be making. Now, there are bases, whose return has been agreed on at the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee already, but which have yet to be returned in reality—Naha Military Port or the Awase Golf Course, for instance. So, I want to have those bases whose return has been agreed returned as soon as possible. From the side of the Okinawa prefectural administration, we have many bases which we want to be returned, in addition to those agreed on. So, I want to talk about these things frankly.

However, because my forthcoming visit will be my first to the United States, I think it will be impossible to expect that I can produce any remarkable results at first. Most of the problems I will bring up are diplomatic issues. On the first visit, I am not going to bring any big purpose with me. I shall rather frankly make appeals and describe the feeling of the people of Okinawa to responsible officials in the United States about the bases problem facing Okinawa in my capacity as representative of the Okinawa prefectural administration.

I hope to establish something like an Okinawa prefectural office in the United States, if that is possible. I am thinking of assigning personnel there—two, at most—who are competent enough to keep constantly in touch with the U.S. Congress and Government. I want to see if it is possible to have them explain the actual state of affairs in Okinawa to the U.S. side. I want to examine these things during my forthcoming visit to Washington.

[Sekita] Last, the new fiscal year has started. In this connection, can you tell me about your aspirations for your Ota prefectural administration?

[Ota] I hope to build a really peaceful Okinawa, without military bases. Okinawa has a wonderful, traditional culture and I want to help build culture-orientated prefectural administration so that Okinawan culture can permeate throughout the prefecture—so that the fragrance of Okinawan culture can be smelled wherever you go. Another thing is that Okinawa is said to be a key point for international exchanges and, in this connection, the upbringing of the necessary human resources is absolutely necessary. Dreams and wishes are countless but, in administration, I think a lot of effort and perseverance will be needed in order to make each project successful and fruitful through the cooperation of my staff. That way, I hope to contribute by all means to the building of a peaceful Okinawa Prefecture. I think this is my aspiration or objective, if you call it so.

[Sekita] Thank you very much for sparing so much time with us.

[Ota] Not at all.

Mongolia

Printing Paper Shortage Considered 'Severe'

OW0904061991 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] The acute shortage of printing paper remains a most severe problem in this country. The last four days, none of the central Mongolian newspapers were issued. The government has started using its buffer stock to mitigate this problem which is not for just a couple of weeks. What comes next, ask people who are tired of so many sorts of problems and commodity deficiencies. According to the [words indistinct] relevant supply organizations have signed contracts with Soviet counterparts for paper purchases, and the government [words indistinct] such a thing.

Oil Refinery Purchase From Germany Approved

OW0104194491 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English
1708 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 31 March (MONTSAME)—The MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government gave a green light to the concern "Mongol Oil" to buy from the German company "Klekner" a factory on refining of the used technical oil with a capacity of producing 7 thousand tons of oil a year.

The above-said factory will be put into operation in 18 months after signing an agreement thereon. Mongolia imports yearly 20-22 thousand tons of technical oil. For the full loading of the factory it is sufficient to gather 40 of by-products. Expenses for the purchase of the factory, as calculated, will be justified a year of operation of the factory.

MONTSAME Reviews 23 Mar Press

*OW2303180391 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English
1715 GMT 23 Mar 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 23 Mar (OANA-MONTSAME)—The newspaper "ARDYN ERH" informs that the third MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] session continues the discussion of the draft law on banks and banking activities.

The paper informs that the MPR Government at its regular meeting has made a decision to issue state loan worth of 300 mln [million] turiks in order to put into circulation liberated [passage indistinct].

North Korea

NODONG SINMUN Criticizes U.S. Military Strategy

*SK0904060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0450 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[“Reckless Nuclear Blackmail”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary says that the allocation of 4,580 million dollars of the U.S. fiscal year 1992 military budget to the “Star Wars” program shows that the U.S. imperialists are hell bent on nuclear arms buildup and nuclear threat and blackmail in accordance with their “military strategy after the cold war” keynote of which is “nuclear deterrent” and their lip service to “termination of cold war” and “advent of peace time” is no more than an empty talk.

The paper goes on:

The U.S. imperialists’ moves to step up nuclear arms buildup and justify a nuclear war are a proof that their nuclear strategy to dominate the world with “nuclear upper hand” has reached a more reckless stage.

The spearhead of their adventurous nuclear policy is turning to Korea.

They have deployed nuclear weapons and other sophisticated lethal weapons in the Northeast Asian region and are taking an attack position under the cloak of “counteraction” and frantically staging the “team spirit” joint military exercises, a test nuclear war against us.

It goes without saying that the U.S. imperialists are dead set against the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a bid to keep nuclear weapons in South Korea and use them in another Korean war.

In order to thwart and frustrate their moves for a nuclear war all the progressive people and peaceloving people of the world should conduct a more vigorous anti-imperialist, anti-nuclear and peace movement.

Meetings Denounce Team Spirit Exercises

*SK0904051691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0427 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[“U.S. Imperialists and South Korean Authorities Must Not Run Riot With Wild Ambition for Northward Invasion”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—Meetings were held at the Musan mining complex, the Nagwon machine complex, the Namhung youth chemical complex, the Wonsan fishery station and on the Chongsan and Kumchon cooperative farms to denounce the “Team Spirit 91” joint military exercises.

At the meetings the speakers expressed indignation at the fact that the war exercises are being staged for more than 70 days, and warned the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities not to run riot with their wild ambition for northward invasion.

No provocation moves of the aggressors can frighten our people who are closed behind the party and the leader, they said, stressing:

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities’ daydream of “unification by prevailing over communism” will never come true.

The speakers strongly urged the U.S. imperialists to immediately discontinue the criminal “Team Spirit” joint military exercises and quit South Korea at once, taking along their forces and nuclear weapons, and No Tae-u to step down without delay.

KCNA Cites Rogachev on South UN Issue

*SK0604102791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1008 GMT 6 Apr 91*

[“Apprehensions for South Korea’s Attempt to ‘Unilaterally Enter UN’”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 6 (KCNA)—Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union Igor Rogachev in a press interview on April 4 expressed apprehensions for South Korea’s hasty attempt to “Unilaterally Enter the United Nations,” according to a TASS report from Tokyo.

A final decision on UN membership should be made through dialogue between the North and the South of Korea, he said, adding: The dialogue between the North and the South can open the road to the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

Paper Views South’s Criticism of War Claims

*SK0904055591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0441 GMT 9 APR 91*

[“Folly of Traitors Lost to Shame”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—The South Korean radio social education, acting as a mouthpiece of the authorities, made a broadcast vilifying the demand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the DPRK-Japan talks that Japan make proper compensations since the 36 years of Korea-Japan relations were relations between a colony and the suzerain state and, at the same time, belligerent relations.

NODONG SINMUN today carries a commentary by doctor of history Min Son-kyu hitting out at this vilification.

Recalling that the radio contended that there is no grounds for the North to demand compensation from Japan, stupidly arguing that there had been no such thing like an armed struggle of Korean communists against the Japanese Army, the commentary says:

It is a glorious history of our nation widely known to the world that the Korean People's Revolutionary Army organized and commanded by the great leader General Kim Il-song waged a protracted bloody armed struggle against the Japanese aggressor troops.

How could the South Korean puppets dare deny the history of our people's glorious anti-Japanese war and describe our demand for compensations from Japan as unreasonable, if they had an iota of national conscience?

The South Korean puppets can hardly conceal nervousness and uneasiness at the just demand made by us upon Japan because, like a thief who feels a guilty conscience, they fear that the truth of their treacherous acts at the time of the "South Korea-Japan talks" might be brought to light.

This is clearly borne out by the outcry of the radio social education that if Japan admitted our reasonable argument it will divest the "ROK" of its "legitimacy."

The South Korean puppet regime is, by origin, a criminal group of flunkeyist traitors who had been stooges of Japanese imperialists during their colonial rule.

Hence, the South Korean puppets could not force out of Japan any apology for its past crimes and failed to demand compensations for the stupendous human and material damages Japan had inflicted on the Korean people, calling themselves the second Li Wan-yong (one of the five traitors of 1905), when they were concluding the "South Korea-Japan talks" in 1965.

Still today, the South Korean people recall it with resentment.

It is because of the disgraceful crimes they had committed against the country and the nation that the South Korean puppets are very fearful of the dignified and independent demand our republic has raised at the DPRK-Japan talks with due pride as the true representative of the Korean nation.

The South Korean puppets would be well-advised to keep silence, having committed crimes against the

country and the nation. But they are trying to speak ill of us who maintain the just stand in defence of the dignity and interests of the whole nation. This vividly reveals what a shameless human scum they are.

CPRF Official Urges South To Let Him Testify

*SK0804152891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1511 GMT 8 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 8 (KCNA)—Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF), urged again Kim Tok-su, president of the Supreme Court of South Korea, to take immediate measures for his trip to Seoul as he has decided to go to Seoul to clarify the truth in the court and testify to the innocence of Rev. Cho Yong-sol and others who participated in the Berlin tripartite talks who are now facing penalties on entirely groundless charges.

In a telephone message to Kim Tok-su today, Chon Kum-chol expressed deep regret at the fact that although he declared he would stand in the court as a witness for those who participated in the Berlin tripartite talks and asked the South side to ensure conveniences in this connection, the South side has not yet replied to it.

He said:

When it was reported that I had been adopted as a witness at the third trial at the Seoul District Criminal Court, your side did not utter a word about it. But, when I expressed my willingness to go to Seoul, your side impudently denied the report itself and turned down the request of the defence panel for permission of contact with me, from an anti-dialogue, anti-reunification stand.

I express surprise at your side's unreasonable behavior and strongly protest and denounce your side's attempt to illegally deal with the delegates to the Berlin tripartite talks, ignoring the demand of personages of different circles for impartiality of trial.

I once again request you to promptly send me through Panmunjom the content of the indictment of your side's prosecution against the participants in the Berlin tripartite talks before the fourth trial and take proper measures for me to meet with the defence panel at Panmunjom as soon as possible.

No Tae-u's Visit to Defense Command Viewed

*SK0604110591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 6 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 6 (KCNA)—No Tae-u showed up at the "Metropolitan Defence Command" of the puppet army on April 5: Crying for the establishment of "a security posture," according to a radio report from Seoul.

Scarcely were the "homeland defence reserve force," a detachment force of the puppet army, mobilized in suppression of the people a few days before No turned up at

the "Metropolitan Defence Command" of the puppet army and let loose bloody outbursts. This is an ominous sign.

Not content with the mobilization of the police and "homeland defence reserve force" in suppression, he is scheming to hurl even puppet army troops in it on the pretext of "security."

This is a heinous challenge to the South Korean people's desire for independence, democracy and reunification and a criminal move to cause a second Kwangju incident.

Intensifying suppression will only give rise to fiercer resistance.

Further Reportage on Visit of South Professor

Makes Arrival Statement

*SK0904004791 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 1100 GMT 5 Apr 91*

[Arrival statement by Kim Hui-won, professor of international politics, former chairman of the Kangwon Provincial District Committee of South Korea's Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), and leading permanent member of the Democratic Liberal Party, at Sunan Airport in Pyongyang, on 5 April—recorded]

[Text] As a former chairman of the Kangwon Provincial District Committee of South Korea's Reunification Democratic Party and professor of international politics, I have come to Pyongyang to solve the question of the withdrawal of the U.S. forces for the reunification of the fatherland. One cannot call one's country an independent, sovereign state if troops of foreign countries—outside forces—have occupied one's territory. Removing foreign troops from our country is my political belief, because I have always felt that outside forces are the enemy of independence and the archenemy of reunification. I can say that pursuing an admirable political career for the sake of the nation in a reunified fatherland is my political hope and belief.

I think that removing all the U.S. troops from the South with no strings attached is the responsibility of politicians, and their mission. No political leader who can remove the outside forces has appeared in the South in the almost half a century since they came. Rather, a figure has appeared in South Korea who, in collusion with the outside forces, insists on achieving reunification by invading the North by force of arms, which will lead to the destruction of the nation, and who is attempting to drive our 70 million fellow countrymen into the furnace of war.

I made a resolution to courageously take the lead in conducting the movement to remove outside forces because I, as a politician, could not look with folded arms at the touch-and-go situation in which the fatherland may plunge into a catastrophe of nuclear war.

I have come to Pyongyang, in the North, a part of my fatherland where there are no outside forces, in the firm

belief that my true intention to help prevent a nuclear war, remove outside forces, and achieve independent reunification will not change here, even though my coming here may cause me personal sacrifice.

I found that there are no outside forces in North Korea when I analyzed all the relevant data in my research on reunification. I also realized during my frequent trips overseas that not only are there no foreign troops in North Korea, but that North Korea has a self-reliant economy and is a self-reliant independent country that is free from foreign intervention.

If Soviet and Chinese troops had stayed in North Korea as occupation forces, I would not have felt it necessary to come to Pyongyang and, rather, would surely have released a declaration of conscience in a third country and would have carried out activities to expel outside forces and reunify the fatherland.

No one can, officially or unofficially, in words or in writing, insist on the legitimacy of the withdrawal of the U.S. troops or on the expulsion of the outside forces in South Korean society. At present, anyone who insists on the legitimacy of the withdrawal of the U.S. troops has nowhere to go other than prison after being labelled as antigovernment, leftist, and procommunist.

Of course, as a matter of fact, South Korean university students, willing to risk their lives or go to prison, are carrying out the movement to remove the U.S. troops. In the belief that if I, a politician and a public figure, deliver a speech on the legitimacy of the withdrawal of U.S. troops at a meeting and am detained as a result, I will not be able to fulfill my goal of carrying out the movement for the withdrawal of outside forces and independence, I, while staying in Great Britain, Switzerland, and other European countries, have tried to file a suit at the International Court of Justice, have released a declaration of conscience or made appeals to foreign reporters, and have tried to conduct the movement to remove the U.S. troops in an organized fashion and to win sympathy from foreign countries. At home, I have tried to unite national forces that espouse the notion that reunification can be achieved only when the U.S. troops are withdrawn.

I have deeply considered: No matter how just the legitimacy of the withdrawal of the U.S. troops may be in view of international law, even if the International Court of Justice and the United Nations accept appeals on this matter but postpone their handling, they will remain mere words, and I will be treated as an antiestablishment, antigovernment, or dangerous person and be pursued by the South Korean authorities from then on and will not be able to fulfill my political goals and live safely in exile.

I have also thought: There is no political leader in South Korea whom I would like to follow. I will not be able to receive favors from the outstanding political leadership of President Kim Il-song, in Pyongyang, on the North side, before reunification is achieved, even though I have considered and admired him as a leader [yongdoja] of our country and in the world, as well.

Of course, I have been a hard-boiled capitalist and conservative. Also, I have not liked nor disliked socialism but have never thought about it. I have never dreamed of visiting North Korea.

However, I deliberated in third countries and realized that North Korea, too, is my fatherland, that there is no outside force there, and that North Korea considers the United States an enemy state. Therefore, I courageously came on a visit to Pyongyang to carry my political faith into practice after thinking the matter over, in the belief that if I go to Pyongyang, I would freely conduct the movement to remove the U.S. troops and would carry out political activities to honestly awaken the people in the North and the South to the falsity of the rhetoric about reunification by the South Korean military rulers, to expel the outside forces, to bring an end to the military government in South Korea, and to establish a civilian government.

Because the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise was conducted recently, I would like to expose the nature of the South Korean puppet military regime and the falsity of the remarks by the United States to the effect that it would help the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula and to expose and condemn the basic policy of the South Korean military regime and the United States on reunifying the Korean Peninsula—the policy of achieving reunification by way of armed northward aggression or a German-style reunification in which one side absorbed the other or of remaining two states by way of individual admission to the United Nations. I would like to propagandize by all means that the current military regime, which is misleading all the South Korean people into believing that the United States is a benevolent country that guarantees freedom and peace in South Korea, is good at falsehoods, fabrications, and political schemes and is carrying out its political activities as the puppet of the United States. I would also propagandize that only when the United States takes its hands off South Korea, only when the U.S. troops are withdrawn, and only when the South Korean military regime is removed, a self-reliant economy will grow, national reunification will be achieved smoothly, and, as a result, 70 million fellow countrymen will be able to live well.

South Korea's No Tae-u military regime is spreading the anachronistic rumors that as soon as the U.S. troops are withdrawn, North Korea will invade the South, turn all of South Korea into a communist society, confiscate people's properties, and murder all the people who are opposed to the communist party.

High-level government officials and their family members, big landowners, and rich businessmen are busy carrying out anticommunist education and are strongly asking that the U.S. troops stay for fear that the military dictatorship may collapse. They are also horribly afraid that the United States may leave after taking its hands off South Korea.

It is a fact that the South Korean people know little about what damage the U.S. imperialists and their troops inflict upon South Korea. Many South Korean people

had mistakenly understood until a little while ago that the United States was a benevolent country that gave economic assistance and freedom to South Korea for free and that the U.S. troops were benevolent troops who bring peace and stability. Also, not many South Korean people know the facts that, as a result of pressures to open South Korea's markets, South Korea is further subjugated to the United States economically, that the United States built nuclear weapons storehouses in South Korea, creating the danger of nuclear war, and that the South Korean military regime has allowed the United States to use its military bases for free and has shared the upkeep for the U.S. troops.

The presence of the U.S. troops in South Korea is very harmful. Under the mere pretext that the U.S. troops prevent the North from invading the South, thus promoting peace, the politics of subjugation and oppression has been continuously carried out in South Korea since the liberation through the presence of the U.S. troops and military dictatorial rule.

Many South Korean people are living at someone else's houses and are subjugated to material wealth. They are leading difficult lives amid the political hazards of tear gas and corruption. On top of that, they are undergoing a crisis of war because of the horrific Team Spirit nuclear war exercise which is conducted for several months each year for the purpose of northward invasion.

Nuclear weapons are stockpiled in Kunsan, Ulsan, Waegwan, and various other places in South Korea, and the danger of nuclear accidents is high. Also, the U.S. troops have used 120 areas as sites for their military bases, have committed violence against women in towns near U.S. military camps and spawned numerous unmarried mothers, have spread pseudo-religions using cunning colonial schemes, have turned South Korea into a society in which money speaks the loudest, have deprived the South Korean people of a sense of ideological unity, have spread intense individualism, and have thrown people into confusion by using material wealth, thus enabling the military regime to remain in power. In this way, the political, military, and economic affairs are under the political manipulation of the United States, and reunification, the nation's supreme desire, has been delayed owing to the United States. Therefore, the U.S. imperialists are the vicious archenemy of our nation and beasts with human faces. I firmly believe that the fact that few South Korean people know these facts will be a grave matter in the future of South Korean politics.

I am planning to let it be known to all the South Korean people by any means that the United States is committing illegal and unjust acts and that the U.S. troops are occupation troops for plunder and aggression.

I demand that if the United States wants to conduct Team Spirit, a nuclear war exercise against the North intended to destroy our nation, it should do it on the U.S. mainland, that is, in New York or Washington, in the skies over the White House, where Bush is working.

and its surroundings. I also strongly demand that the United States withdraw all its troops who have inflicted losses upon South Korea and, at the same time, pay the rent for its use of the bases and make proper compensation for the losses to the South Korean people.

I will make every effort to continuously propagandize that the presence of the U.S. troops in South Korea is neither legitimate nor justifiable, to corner the United States internationally to ensure that it withdraw its forces from South Korea, and to fairly tell the South Korean people the true picture of North Korean society to achieve stable economic growth and to promote genuine peace. In this way, I will make it difficult for the United States to find an excuse to let its troops to stay in South Korea.

That the South Korean people know little about the North because of the National Security Act is regrettable, and the South Korean authorities have monopolized channels with the North.

Only when each system is correctly known to the other and only when the two sides know each other's reality, will the fellow countrymen of the North and South have the common understanding of reunification, and, as a result, mistrust will be removed and reconciliation will be achieved.

It is urgent to let it be known to the South Korean people that the U.S. troops are not benevolent troops but very bad imperialist troops who exploit the economy and who destroy peace.

Some big businesses, nation sellers who sympathize with U.S. economic policies, must be punished in the name of all the people; their properties must be confiscated by the state; they must be forced to completely sever their ties with the United States; and, as in France, Europe, the nationalization policy must be carried out, though for a limited period of time. Also, the military regime, which is subjugated to the United States, must resign, and a legitimate democratic regime must be born. I think that only then, will correct law and order be maintained in society and economic stability, public welfare, and genuine peace will be promoted.

The U.S. imperialists have reduced South Korea to an economic colony, have exploited the South Korean work force and the national force in collusion with some big businesses, and have carried out the policy of protecting their national interests. I can say that the main motive that made me harden my determination and visit North Korea is the firm belief that courageous politicians should take the lead in restoring the national spirit by indicting the United States, which is viciously pursuing this preposterous policy of destroying other nations, before the South Korean people and the international community and lead us, the first generation of division, in our efforts to achieve genuine sovereignty and independence and national reunification.

Today, I took the joyful first step in North Korea, my fatherland, after traveling around the earth because of

the U.S. imperialists. However, I look forward to the day when the U.S. troops are withdrawn, when the concrete wall is destroyed, and when, as a result, the people of the North and South can travel to Pyongyang and Seoul by train and meet each other with warm tears.

[Signed] Kim Hui-won

[Dated] 5 April 1991, Pyongyang Sunan Airport

Sees Mangyongdae, Lauds Kim Il-song

*SK0904060991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0434 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—Kim Hui-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial District Committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", on a visit to northern half of Korea, called at Mangyongdae Monday.

After seeing round the old home where President Kim Il-song was born, he said:

Through my visit to Mangyongdae today I became better acquainted with the reason why the world progressive people, as well as the South Korean students and people, boundlessly revere and highly praise the great his excellency President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song is a great man who, born in Mangyongdae, is devoting his whole life only to the people.

As a politician of South Korea, my lifelong desire is to be led by such a great person.

It is the wish of the South Korean people that the 70 million fellow countrymen will live together, holding the great President Kim Il-song in high esteem as the leader after forcing the outside forces out of South Korea and realising the country's reunification. I will devote my all to the struggle for national reunification.

'Gist' of 'Declaration'

*SK0904114391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1018 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—Professor of international politics Kim Hui-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial district committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party," published a declaration of conscience when he was interviewed by home and foreign reporters at Pyongyang Koryo Hotel this afternoon.

Following is the gist of the declaration:

I had majored in politics and diplomacy at a university of South Korea and held a university professorship while making a deep study of international politics and labour problem for about five years till 1985.

I was nominated as a candidate for "National Assembly elections" by the central party when I was chairman of the Cholwon and Hwachon District, South Korean Kangwon Province, committees of the "Reunification Democratic Party".

I had run in the National Assembly elections twice and displayed my political willpower with the political ambition and will to be elected a national assemblyman so as to make the U.S. Forces withdraw from South Korea by any means and achieve independence and sovereignty creditably on the National Assembly rostrum. But I failed and my intention to work for the U.S. troop pullout and make them pay compensation for the losses at the National Assembly could not be carried into practice.

Our people, whether they live in the North or in the South, is a homogeneous nation which has lived together for thousands of years with the same history, language and culture.

However, it was divided in the scramble of great powers for domination and the fellow countrymen in the North and the South have stood in confrontation with each other along the truce line as the most relentless enemies which resulted in disgusting each other and aggravating the tendency toward national heterogeneity.

This situation of hostility is even fraught with the danger of a nuclear war that may lead the entire nation of 70 million to destruction.

Who is to blame for this?

No other than the U.S. imperialists and the successive South Korean ruling quarters, I believe.

At present, the puppet dictatorial regime of No Tae-u's new military in South Korea, guided by the ridiculous argument that it represents the nation of 70 million as a whole and the power of South Korea encompasses the entire Korean Peninsula, defines the regime of the North as "an anti-state organization" and the North Korean region has "a region under the illegal occupation of the anti-state organization" and is pursuing its wild ambition to absorb and annex North Korea by force of arms and politically.

The United States and the South Korean military dictators virtually do not recognize North Korea as a partner of negotiations over reunification but openly intend to carry to success the method of reunification by absorption employed by Germany in Europe, a method whereby to inveigle the United Nations as a mediator in the matter of reunification of the Korean peninsula and achieve reunification through general elections based on the proportion of population under the U.N. supervision.

Proof of this is furnished by the "Team Spirit" offensive exercises for a nuclear war against the north. The South Korean "regime" is really a marionette group which has no independent ideology of its own, no steadfast will for reunification, no political leader capable of responsible guidance of the people and no legitimacy. The dangerous

ones who depend on U.S. imperialism for all matters of politics, the economy and military affairs and seek to gratify the ambition for reunification by northward invasion are No Tae-u's new military ruling quarters.

All the 42 million people in South Korea are intelligent, hard-working and honest-minded and they sincerely desire a peaceful reunification with the North, not reunification by force of arms.

More than 80 percent of the South Korean army officers and men want rather the armies of the North and the South to join forces and drive out the U.S. Forces and achieve independence and sovereignty than the U.S. Forces to invade the North with nuclear weapons for reunification by force of arms, and more than 90 percent of the South Korean people earnestly long for the leadership of President Kim Il-song who has shaped admirable policies in the North for 45 years.

In other words, the people of the North and the South are thus harmonious and united with each other in mind. There is no heterogeneity between them.

The biggest stumbling blocks in the way of reunification on the Korean Peninsula are the foreign troops, the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea brings no good but only harm to the nation.

They have 120 military bases on the land of less than 100,000 square kilometers and illegally use them as nuclear arsenals storing a large number of neutron bombs and nuclear weapons brought from the U.S. mainland.

Whom these latest nuclear weapons they have deployed are to attack and defend?

Well known is the mean, gangster-like war method of the United States to swallow up even the North by means of a surprise attack at it while staging the "Team Spirit" nuclear war exercises.

The United States claims that it had brought economic development, peace and freedom to South Korea, but no one in South Korea is so foolish as to believe it.

It is an act of aggression, an unpardonable violation of sovereignty and human rights for the United States to use South Korea as its nuclear storehouse for its own interest and security.

All people in South Korea suffer losses at the hand of the United States and so do the 70 million Koreans.

One of the South Korean people, I cannot look with folded arms at these colossal losses.

But, the South Korean military dictatorial regime with no legitimacy, bent on the maintenance of power, defends the U.S. and its troops and suppresses the people in collusion with them, not minding dependence on the United States.

Upset by the widespread campaign for a probe into the truth behind the Suso housing scandal and for the resignation of the government jointly launched by the students, workers and other people, the present government of South Korea intends to leave the sovereignty of South Korea and the prerogative of military command in the hand of the United States so that the U.S. troops may continue occupying South Korea and obstructing the reunification of Korea. It also schemes to realise South Korea's unilateral entry into the United Nations, availing itself of the U.S. forces' presence, lead a secure life as a separate state forever and maintain the military regime. The No Tae-u military government does not want reunification but want to freeze the truce line as the borderline. This is the basic policy it agreed upon with the United States.

The total withdrawal of the U.S. troops and the resignation of the marionette military government of No Tae-u are the only way of promoting independence, sovereignty and the reunification of the country under the rigorous situation of South Korea.

In order to solve this problem at the risk of my life, I have come to Pyongyang with a pledge to devote my body and soul to the country as a politician, although I know this is a rugged path.

My plan is to fight to deal a heavy blow at the United States and the marionette government of No Tae-u and force the U.S. troops out of South Korea and oust the No Tae-u military regime in silent solidarity with the 70 million Koreans.

For the people in the North and the South, the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo advanced by the great His Excellency President Kim Il-song is the only fair and just way of reunifying the nation peacefully.

The proposal for reunification by confederation is deeply seated in the hearts of our 70 million Koreans in the North, the South and overseas. What remains to be done is to define the method and procedures of realising it.

The pressing task is to force the U.S. imperialists, the wrecker of reunification and the chief obstacle to independence and sovereignty, out of South Korea and oust No Tae-u the military dictator captive to the ambition for aggression on the North.

I declare that I will devotedly fight for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons and the ouster of the South Korean military regime.

NODONG SINMUN Views 'Global Independence'

*SK0904102791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1007 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—To realize the global independence is the common task facing mankind and a matured demand of the times, stresses NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The independent world means a world in which all hues of dominationism and colonialism are completely abolished and the sovereignty of all countries and nations completely realized, the article notes, and goes on:

The essential feature of the independent world is that all manner of domination and subjugation encroaching upon and violating the sovereignty of a country and nation is done away with completely worldwide so that all countries and nations achieve the independence and exercise sovereign rights, taking responsibility for their own destinies and shaping them up their own initiative.

Precisely herein lies the principled difference that distinguishes the independent world from the world of the past and today.

It is the common desire of mankind to live in a free, peaceful and prosperous world.

Ours is an era of independence. The world people aspire after independence and an increasing number of countries take the road to it. This is an irresistible main trend of our era.

To realize the global independence by more forcefully pushing ahead with this current is the common task facing mankind and a matured demand of the times.

KCNA Review of 9 Apr NODONG SINMUN

*SK0904062991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0454 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of sympathy sent by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the central committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, in connection with the heavy loss of lives by train accident in Cuba.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the new proposal for national reunification advanced by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year Address was actively supported in various countries.

Foreigners expressed their unbounded respect and reverence for President Kim Il-song after visiting Mangyongdae, says the daily.

The Workers' Party of Korea publishing house brought out the "Among the People" vol. 47 carrying reminiscences on the wise leadership and lofty communistic virtues of President Kim Il-song, according to the daily.

An article of the daily says that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has led the three-revolution team members to take the lead in the automation and robotization of the production processes.

"On Further Improving the People's Living", a work of Comrade Kim Chong-il, was carried by the Indian paper Economic Times, says the daily.

Spotlighted in the daily is news that the shock brigade of workers in the field of party ideology is pressing ahead with the construction of the Paektusan Secret Camp area.

MINJU CHOSON runs an article dealing with the underground revolutionary activities conducted by Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON carry editorials under the respective titles "Cadres Must Be Faithful Servants of People" and "Let Us More Strictly Abide by the Law on Environmental Protection".

Taebong Mine of Yanggang Province, the third shaft pit of the Chonma mine of North Pyongan Province, the Hamhung chemical joint venture factory and the Taesong June 4 joint venture factory were commissioned on the occasion of the holiday of April, according to the press.

Papers give an account of meetings of activist tractor drivers in districts and counties throughout country.

Papers carry a photo-illustrated report about the premiere of the 9th April spring friendship art festival.

Given in the press are accounts of the international marathon race for "Mangyongdae Prize" held in Pyongyang and of the opening of the Second Pyongyang Exhibition of International Youth Inventions and New Technologies.

Kim Hui-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial district committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", visited Mangyongdae, reports the press.

It is reported in the press that Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, sent a telephone message to Kim Tok-chu, president of the supreme court of South Korea, expressing his willingness to go to Seoul to testify to the innocence of the delegates of the South side who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks. Echoed in the press are home and foreign public voices denouncing the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

In a commentary headlined "Folly of Shameless Traitors" NODONG SINMUN exposes the anti-national crime of the South Korean authorities in hindering the normalisation of relations between the DPRK and Japan.

According to the press, the U.S. paper workers world carried an article entitled "U.S. Forces Present in South Korea Are Occupation Forces".

Papers come out with articles denouncing the U.S. imperialists for seriously threatening peace and security

in the Korean Peninsula and the rest of the world, while running amok in their nuclear arms buildup.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of China, stressed that China would consistently adhere to the reunification principle of "one country, two systems" regarding the Hong Kong issue, the Romanian president visited the Soviet Union, a spokesman for the foreign ministry of Vietnam branded as a fabrication the report by the South Korean puppets that it proposed to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea and the presidents of the presidency of the six republics of Yugoslavia approved the preservation of the federal republic.

It runs an article entitled "Global Independence Is Matured Demand of Times".

Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki of Japan protested the underground nuclear test by the U.S. imperialists, says the paper.

Decree Issued on Title of People's Reporter

*SK0804042791 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 1200 GMT 7 Apr 91*

[Text] The DPRK Central People's Committee issued a decree on awarding Comrade Han Myong-hong, deputy section chief of Kumsong Youth Publishing House, the title of DPRK People's Reporter and the Order of National Flag Class, because he has long worked in the publishing field, upholding the party's leadership. He has indoctrinated youths and working people in a revolutionary manner by writing and editing many books, vigorously aroused them to carry out the party's policy, and thus has made a great contribution to modelling the entire society on the *chuche* idea.

[Signed] Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK

[Dated] 4 April 1991, Pyongyang

South Korea

China Not To Advise of Veto of UN Entry

*SK0904014191 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
9 Apr 91 p 1*

[By reporter Song Hye-nan in New York]

[Text] Regarding the ROK Government's proposal to submit a request for UN membership prior to the regular UN General Assembly meeting in September, on 7 April a high-ranking official of the Chinese mission to the United Nations revealed that "the Chinese mission to the United Nations will not advise the government of its home country to exercise a veto."

This official also said that "the decision on the issue of entry by the ROK into the United Nations will not be

simple because the will of the highest leadership of both North Korea and China is entangled."

Commenting on North Korea's position, the official stressed that he has "sensed a change in recent North Korean moves, and North Korea has no alternative plans except acceptance of reality by recognizing it."

Official Comments on UN Membership

SK0904024691 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
8 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] In connection with its memorandum delivered to the UN Security Council to seek membership in the United Nations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 8 April disclosed: "When we join the United Nations first, North Korea will also be compelled to join it, following us."

That day, saying that, "We have not confirmed any moves that North Korea will respond to our proposal for simultaneous entry into the United Nations," a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official stressed that, "However, our entry into the United Nations does not mean that we will reject North Korea's entry into this organization."

The official said: "Pointing out the unique situation on the Korean peninsula, the Soviet Union has emphasized the need for us to consult with North Korea to the end. However, I understand the Soviet Union supports the principle of universality." He said: "China, as well, has stressed the need for us to consult with the North about seeking membership in the United Nations. But it has appraised the fact that last year we withheld our application for seeking membership in the United Nations."

The official added, "As the majority of UN member countries see our entry into the United Nations as a question that should be no longer delayed, the international circumstances are being created in favor of our entry into the United Nations."

China Opens Trade Representative Office in Seoul

SK0904061991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0559 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—China came a step closer to normalizing diplomatic relations with South Korea on Tuesday with the opening of its trade representative office in Seoul.

Xu Dayou, head of the trade office, ceremoniously hung a sign at the entrance to the office in downtown Seoul as Yi Son-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp., and some 100 Korean businessmen looked on.

The office, with a staff of 13, will perform limited consular functions as well as handling trade matters.

South Korea opened a trade office in Beijing, which has diplomatic relations with North Korea, in late January under a bilateral agreement.

Xu, a former vice chairman of the Chinese Chamber of International Commerce, arrived March 28 to take up his post.

Defense Ministry Not To Reconsider Choice of F-16

SK0904093891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0910 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will not reconsider the choice of plane for its fighter program even if the U.S. contractor cannot fully satisfy the conditions for technology transfer, a Defense Ministry official said Tuesday.

The government earlier this month reversed its choice of McDonnell Douglas's F/A-18 Hornet for the Korea fighter program (KFP), a multi-U.S. billion dollar project for the country's next generation jet fighters, and switched to the cheaper F-16 Fighting Falcon of General Dynamics.

"McDonnell Douglas had indicated that it respects South Korea's final choice but suggested it will compete again if Seoul reconsiders its decision between the two companies," the official said.

"The KFP will not be reviewed again between the two types," the official said, suggesting that fighters may be bought from another country rather than reselected between the two.

Even if negotiations with the U.S. side do not bring satisfactory results on requested technology transfer, Korea will not review the decision, the official said.

America tends to believe it is better for Korea to buy the fighters off the shelf instead of co-producing with U.S.-made parts and components, the official said, but the U.S. side is not likely to reject the co-production proposal.

Seoul has already sent a draft memorandum of understanding to the United States, and official negotiations will open early next month, according to the official. The memorandum can be formally approved within three to four months, the official added.

Students Protest 'U.S. Pressure on Market Opening'

SK0904033191 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
9 Apr 91 p 15

[Text] Five students who belong to the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], including Cho Kum-hui, 19-year old sophomore in Social Education Department of Seoul National University, visited the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the ROK located in the third floor of Chonson Hotel at Sogong-tong, Chung Ku, at around 1450 on 8 April to deliver a letter of protest against continuous U.S. pressure on market opening. However, they were all taken to police within five minutes by policemen who dashed to the spot.

Chartered Plane To Return Medics From Gulf

*SK0804115491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1037 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—Korean Air (KAL) is to send a chartered plane to the Gulf region Tuesday to fly members of a Korean military medical team and an air transport unit back home, a KAL spokesman said Monday.

A chartered DC-10, which is scheduled to leave early Tuesday for Dhahran in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, will return home Wednesday with 255 Koreans aboard, the spokesman said.

Korea dispatched the military personnel in January and February in support of the U.S.-led allied forces in the Gulf war.

Military Personnel Leave Gulf

*SK0904094891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0915 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Sixty-five military personnel with the 160-member South Korean air transportation unit deployed in the Gulf in support of allied forces left al-Ayn base in the United Arab Emirates for Seoul at the weekend, a Defense Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

The Koreans are due here Wednesday afternoon aboard a C-130 Hercules transport, and a 154-member medical team and 95 pilots and technicians of the unit will depart Dhahran Airport in Saudi Arabia for Seoul Tuesday night aboard a chartered plane.

The 314 soldiers are to be welcomed home by relatives, Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku and the chiefs of staff of the Army, Navy and Air Force, he said.

The medical team had treated 1,634 wounded Iraqi and allied soldiers since Jan. 19 and the air transportation unit made 323 sorties, flying 1,405 coalition soldiers and 713 tons of cargo since Feb. 26, he said.

The teams will be disbanded Thursday.

Agency Replaces Overseas Development Corporation

*SK0804102391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—The Korea International Cooperation Agency had a signboard hanging ceremony on Monday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The replacement for the Korea Overseas Development Corp. [KODC] is in charge of offering economic support to developing countries and exchanges of technicians, in addition to the work of its precursor, the spokesman said.

The agency, under the control of the Foreign Ministry, was initiated April 1 and KODC Chairman Yi Nam-ki named to head it.

Commentator Urges 'Cool-Headed' Ties With USSR

*SK0904053791 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
8 Apr 91 p 5*

[Article by political commentator Yang Ho-min from the "Comment on Current Events" column: "We Need To Be Cool-Headed in Our Approach to the Soviet Union"]

[Text] The 1988 Olympics in Seoul broke the ice that had kept ROK-USSR relations frozen. Finally, on 1 October 1990, the two countries normalized their relations. Ever since, the two countries have seen a large number of people come and go, just like next-door neighbors dropping in. As a result of brisk economic and cultural exchanges between the two countries, trade volume has enormously increased. The Soviet Union is no longer a forbidden land to the Korean people. This shows the enormous scope of changes that have taken place in global history, and we hoped it would greatly contribute to peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

On the other hand, in such a hectic atmosphere, the importance of the ROK-U.S. military alliance has faded in our memory to the point where we no longer seem to distinguish which countries helped the North invade the South in the Korean war and which countries helped us defend ourselves. This tendency is particularly conspicuous among the younger generation, who did not experience the war.

Many high-ranking Soviet party and Government officials have come to Korea following the establishment of USSR-ROK diplomatic relations and have said many things.

In the beginning, their remarks were relatively objective and reasonable, which helped them appear as if they were trying to understand our country's position. However, with the passage of time, their remarks sounded more subjective and more hard-line, to the point where we occasionally become aware of their rude and contemptuous attitude toward us.

At a news conference held on 4 April, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Rogachev, who came to Korea to participate in the 47th conference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP], fielded a series of questions. The questions were largely on three topics. First, Rogachev was asked to reveal the true picture of the tragic end of the Korean Air flight 007 which was shot down by Soviet Sukhoi-15 over Sakhalin.

The shooting down of the Korean Air passenger plane once again drew international attention after the Soviet Government organ IZVESTIYA printed a 10-installment in-depth story starting 21 March.

ASAHI TV in Japan shed light on many of the facts that the Soviet Government has withheld until now, when it recently aired interviews with the Soviet pilot responsible for the destruction of the passenger plane and with the divers who salvaged some of the wreckage of the downed plane.

Nevertheless, Rogachev complained that such foreign news reports had only generated anti-Soviet sentiment in Korea and said that he would "pass on to the ROK side additional information about the downed Korean Air plane when it is available," that the Soviet Union had already "apologized for it," or that it was "an incident from the past that occurred during the cold war period and the cold war is over." Thus he spoke for the Soviet Government, which has been trying to prevaricate about the tragedy.

Under no circumstances can the true picture of the unarmed civilian passenger plane, Korean Air Flight 007, which was shot down with the noble lives of 269 passengers from 15 countries aboard, be left covered. There is no way of knowing how strongly our government pressed the Soviet Government to reveal the true picture in the course of conducting talks over the establishment of diplomatic relations. If our government was sketchy about this issue because of its preoccupation with the idea of normalizing diplomatic relations and if it did not put much pressure on the Soviets, it would have made the Soviets contemptuous of Korea. Gorbachev should find it necessary to order a detailed investigation into this tragedy and announce the results of the investigation if for no other reason than to restore national dignity and confidence, and also out of humanitarian consideration. It is also an unavoidable duty he bears before the international community.

Let us recall what is known about the Katyn Woods tragedy, which took place 51 years ago. On 23 August 1939, Stalin and Hitler signed the Soviet-German Non-aggression Pact as well as a secret agreement on finalizing borders, the so-called boundary of interests, which was based on two additional secret documents attached to the nonaggression pact to divide Poland in two and hand over the three Baltic states to the Soviet Union. When the Soviet Union invaded Poland in September 1939, about 15,000 Poles were captured by the Soviet Union and became prisoners of war. Most of them were Army officers. The prisoners of war were relocated to three concentration camps in April 1940, and thousands of them were brutally massacred in the Katyn Woods near Smolensk. Nothing has been learned about what happened to the rest; not even a document on it has been found to date.

Since the end of World War II, the Soviet Union has blamed Nazi Germany for the tragic massacre in the Katyn Woods. Only in April 1990 did Gorbachev admit that it was the work of the Soviet secret police. In a statement released on 13 April 1990, TASS declared the Katyn Woods tragedy one of the most flagrant crimes committed by Stalinists. Also, in a statement released in

April 1989, the Soviet Government declared the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia by the armies of five countries, led by the Soviet Army, as a wrong decision. Nevertheless, the Soviet Government is trying to hide the truth about the Korean war during the Stalinist era and the shooting down of the Korean Air Flight 007 during the Andropov era. What are we supposed to make of the Soviet Union's diplomatic discrimination against the ROK as such, in relation with East Europe?

Commenting on the UN issue during a news conference on 4 April, Rogachev said that "a hasty attempt to enter the United Nations may cause South-North relations to deteriorate," or if "South Korea applies for UN membership at the next UN General Assembly session a very complicated situation will arise." Of course his temporizing words as such were understandable given his awareness of North Korea. However, we do not know what we can expect from North Korea, which has stubbornly insisted that the South and North be jointly represented at the United Nations with one seat, something unheard of and not even mentioned in the UN Charter, while doggedly opposing the separate entry of the South and North, calling it "perpetuation of the division."

Now that the Soviet Union has recognized the ROK as a sovereign country and has established diplomatic relations with it, we find it hard to understand why Korea's application for UN membership would lead to an extremely complicated situation.

Rogachev justified North Korea's assertions by repeating the Soviet Union's hitherto opposition to the stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea and the deployment of nuclear weapons there.

He seems to be completely unaware of what made U.S. troops—who had left Korea in 1949—return and what guaranteeing ROK security means in the face of a North Korea which has signed military alliance with such major nuclear powers as the Soviet Union and China, both of which share the same borderlines with North Korea.

I think that the time has come for us to examine ourselves whether we have not expected too much from such things as perestroika or new thinking ever since Gorbachev came into power and whether we have not accepted the Soviet Union too easily. We must correct it. The Soviet Union is a country that has handled international politics as a major power for over half a century, ever since the collapse of Czarist Russia. In the process, it has cultivated diplomatic skills and a variety of strategies. Nevertheless, we have shown them many weak points. We were excited about Gorbachev's possible visit to Korea, about the establishment of sister cities, and about cultural exchanges. We promised the Soviet Union without hesitation an enormous amount of economic aid—\$3 billion—even though our country was going through extreme economic difficulties.

From now on we must be cool-headed in our perception of the Soviet Union and formulate a firm policy. Otherwise, we will be ridiculed as "a bunch of rookies" or "fools" and may end up devastating the country's future.

Main Opposition Party, Dissident Group Merge

SK0904022491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) formally became the New Democratic Union Party [NDUP] with Kim Tae-chung of PPD as its helmsman in a merger with a dissident-backed group Tuesday.

About 3,000 delegates from the merging organizations elected Yi U-Chong, head of the dissident group, also called NDUP, senior supreme member and picked eight supreme council members during a national convention at the Korea Exhibition Center in southern Seoul.

Five supreme council members are from the PPD—former PPD Vice Presidents Choe Yong-kun, Pak Yong-sok, No Song-hwan, Yi Yong-hui and Pak Yong-nok. The dissident members are NDUP Vice Chairmen Pak Il, Kim Mal-yong and Choe Sung-muk.

The charter adopted at the convention gives total authority to the party president, who represents the party and presides over the supreme council.

With the merger, the PPD, with 69 seats in the 299-member national assembly, ceases to exist three years and five months after its foundation Nov. 12, 1987.

Kim Tae-chung told the delegates the "historic merger of PPD and NDUP provides a firm foundation for a unified opposition party to win the next presidential election."

Kim said it was important for the opposition to achieve victory in the 1992 presidential election and the new party would "vigorously" promote the unification of all opposition forces.

"The Korean people eagerly wants an opposition party which will put an end to the governing by public security forces and change the government to a democratic one," a party statement said.

"The merger of PPD, which has struggled for democratization and for the sake of the people, and the NDUP, a representative of democratic forces which struggled against military dictatorship, is a short cut to advance the grand unification of all democratic forces," the statement said.

The convention adopted a seven-point platform that called for a fair market economy, respect for human rights, realization of moral politics, national reunification through confederation and omnidirectional diplomacy.

Reorganization of district chapters will be completed by the end of August. About 60 people from the old NDUP will seek the chairmanship of local chapters of the new NDUP, which will have them in 224 parliamentary constituencies.

Kim Tae-chung Makes Acceptance Speech

SK0904073891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung said Tuesday his new party, created earlier in the day by merging Kim's party for Peace and Democracy with the dissident-backed New Democratic Union Party [NDUP], was centrist and would pursue "reform in stability."

In an acceptance speech after being elected president of the party, also named the New Democratic Union Party, Kim said the NDUP would speak for the middle class and underprivileged, for workers, farmers and the poor, and would cooperate with "conscientious" businessmen.

The nation was standing at a crossroads, he said, it could let the government of the Democratic Liberal Party further isolate the poor and underprivileged from national development or it could support him.

"Our people will not continue to support the DLP regime. I'm confident that they will support the NDUP, the unified opposition party born today, with all their might."

He demanded the government immediately outlaw the use of aliases in financial transactions because it had generated numerous vices that hamper just economic development.

Now that Rep. Pak Chol-on, a relative and close confidant of President No Tae-u, had left the Laurel Club (Wolgyesu-hoe), one of the most powerful private organizations inside the ruling party, the society should be disbanded right away, he said.

"The group is a key element in the political unrest and security-oriented style of No's government and we will not be hoodwinked. The Laurel Club should be disbanded," Kim said.

In the local elections in big constituencies in mid-June, the NDUP would campaign on the Suso housing scandal, inflation, social disorder, security and pollution, he said.

At the meeting of the Interparliamentary Union in Pyongyang late this month, NDUP delegates would ask North Korea to join the United Nations alongside South Korea, simultaneously but separately, Kim said. The North has said it will join only if the South agrees to share a seat.

Yi Kyo-song Quits PPD in Protest

SK0804082291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT
8 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] lost control of a National Assembly seat Monday, when Rep. Yi Kyo-song quit to protest the PPD's merger with the New Democratic Union Party.

"The merger will only perpetuate the division of the opposition. I will not take part in the merger, would rather help build an opposition party that will be truly loved by the people," Yi said in a statement. His departure leaves the PPD with 69 of the 299 assembly seats.

Elections 'Likely To Be' Set for 18 June

SK0904021691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—The government is likely to hold second stage of local elections, for big city and provincial councils, in the third week of June, party sources said Tuesday.

Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] Secretary-General Kim Yun-hwan reported to President No Tae-u, who is party head, on this on Monday, the sources said.

The date will be set by DLP and government officials and is likely to be June 18, the sources said.

The DLP will accept applications from would-be candidates from early May and will finish selection by around May 10. It was planned to take applications from late April and announce a final list at the beginning of May, but the party has decided hold off in order not to fuel electioneering prematurely, the sources said.

"The party will give priority to conducting the upcoming elections in a fair atmosphere, as in the last elections. Corrupt electioneering and vote buying will be sternly dealt with," one of the sources said.

To revive local autonomy, absent for 30 years, South Koreans went to the polls March 26 and elected 3,489 men and women, plus another 615 running unopposed, to serve on 260 local councils in small cities, counties and municipal wards.

The ruling party, in a landslide victory, won control of over 70 percent of the council seats.

The sources said efforts would be made to repeat the victory in the second round. Secretary-General Kim would persuade private groups within the ruling camp not to put up their own candidates against official DLP candidates, they said.

Nomination Convention Surfaces as Major Issue

SK0904003391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 9 Apr 91 p 2

[Text] When to call a presidential nomination convention is surfacing as the hottest issue of factional wrangling in the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

Rival factions are stepping up their maneuvers over next year's presidential race following the dropout of strong potential contender, Pak Chol-on.

They are split over whether to hold a national convention this year or sometime after the next parliamentary elections expected early next year.

President No Tae-u, meanwhile, is calling for party unity, urging that the question be put to rest for the moment.

During their weekly meeting this week, No will likely call on party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam to stop promoting an early party convention, party sources said.

The President, who also heads the ruling party, will also meet other party leaders separately to appeal for party unity.

No's concern about factional bickering was behind Pak's resignation from the Wolgyesuhoe (Laurel Club), a powerful private organization, the sources said. Pak is currently minister of sports and youth and a lawmaker.

A relative of No's, Pak also said he would not run in the party's race for presidential nomination.

Followers of Kim Yong-sam, the No. 2 man in the ruling party, have been promoting a bid to have him elected as the party's next standard-bearer to succeed President No, whose single five-year term ends in February 1993.

Members of Kim's faction contend that Kim be chosen as the next presidential candidate and that the party participate in next year's parliamentary elections under his supervision.

Kim's opponents, including the party's largest faction led by No, are adamantly opposed to an early convention. They have no prominent figures with such national recognition and political career as Kim's.

Kim appears to favor becoming the presidential candidate by party consensus, but his rival factions call for a freely contested nomination convention.

Kim's opponents said the party convention should be held after next year's National Assembly elections.

In a related development, party Secretary-General Kim Yun-hwan gave somewhat ambiguous remarks on when the party convention should be called.

"I think the majority view is that the convention be held after next year's parliamentary elections," he stated.

He went on to say, however, that he does not rule out the possibility of an earlier convention. "The convention could be held before the Assembly elections, if it is judged that doing so would be in the interests of the party."

He indicated that senior members of the largest faction would be able to field a unified contender by the time of the convention. Kim himself is one of senior members of the faction.

Kim Yong-sam followers said they would promote a bid to help him secure candidacy through negotiations among the major factions, not through open competition.

Floor Leaders Agree to Extra Assembly Session

*SK0804065691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0615 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—Floor leaders agreed Monday to convene the National Assembly for an extra sitting April 19.

The three-week session will deal with contamination of water sources, highlighted by the recent dumping of phenol into the Naktong River by a business conglomerate.

The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy also wants to bring up the Suso housing district scandal, in which the government is suspected of giving favors to a construction company, but the ruling party will resist on the grounds it was discussed at the last session.

Deputy whips will talk further about whether to put the Suso scandal on the agenda.

DLP Official: Government To Control Laurel Club

*SK0904060091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—The government and its party will take control of the Wolgyesu-hoe (Laurel Club), a powerful private society set up by Sports and Youth Minister Pak Chol-on, and then will decide whether it should be disbanded, a senior official in the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] said Tuesday.

The official hinted at the possibility of the club being dismantled, saying President No Tae-u was likely to keep it only as long as he remained in office and then fold it as the Laurel Club was set up by Pak to support No when he was presidential candidate of the now-defunct Democratic Justice Party [DJP] in 1987.

"We have carefully examined president No's instruction to find a way to absorb the Laurel Club into the DLP, but we have concluded that because of its characteristics it is impossible to integrate it into the official organization or manage it as an auxiliary organ of the party," he said on condition of anonymity.

"With minister Pak's resignation as adviser to the club as a turning point, it will be entirely decolored into a genuinely private friendship organization, staying away out of politics."

There was a wide understanding in ruling circles that the Laurel Club had become a great burden on No in managing state affairs, and that No would decide the club's fate from the viewpoint of a one-term president, he said.

Another DLP source said some DLP lawmakers who were heads or advisers of club district chapters were likely to resign.

Burma

Sources: Civilian Government 'Early Next Month'

BK0904014091 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
9 Apr 91 p A4

[By Somchit Rungchamratsami and Kokhet Chanthaloetlak]

[Text] Tak—The Burmese military government is expected to announce the establishment of a civilian government to be led by Dr Maung Maung, leader of the opposition National League for Democracy (NLD), by early next month, sources said.

Thai and Mon sources along the Thai-Burmese border in Mae Sot said the civilian government would also include two former members of the Burmese government-in-exile who had defected to Rangoon.

The civilian government would comprise MPs [members of parliament] belonging to the NLD, and other opposition MPs who had not been arrested during the military crack down on dissidents as well as members of the military-backed parties, according to the sources. The civilian government, which the sources said had already been formed, is seeking the support of friendly governments, including Bangkok and Beijing, which are expected to be among the first to recognize it, the sources said.

The Burmese junta led by Gen Saw Maung refused to transfer power to the NLD and other opposition parties which had won overwhelming majority votes in the general election last May.

Sources in the Karen National Union (KNU) said the planned announcement of the establishment of the civilian government coincided with Rangoon's current military drive against the parallel government led by Sein Win based at a Karenni stronghold in Manerplaw opposite Mae Hong Son.

On the latest development of fighting between Burmese government troops and KNU near the Thai-Burmese border, the sources said about 3,000 Burmese soldiers were involved in the offensive against the Karenni force guarding the Manerplaw.

—The Third Army Region has asked Burmese government troops to pull back from a position in the border area opposite the northern province of Mae Hong Son for security reasons, informed sources said. The sources denied rumours that the Burmese troops had trespassed Thai territory opposite Khun Yuam district's Ban Huai Ton Nun village but admitted that they had been positioned "too close" to the border.

"Third Army Region Commander Phairot Chan-urai informed Burmese authorities that the move could be considered a provocative act and asked them to withdraw farther into Burma," the sources said. But the Burmese side said the 30-member task force, including

forestry and customs officials, would remain in the area to inspect the operations of logging concessionaires for another 30 days.

The Rangoon government has allowed many Thai logging companies to exploit its rich forest under concessions along the Thai-Burmese border.

Tribunal Sentences 2 'Absconders' to Death

BK0804160291 Rangoon Burma Television Network
in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 April 91

[Excerpts] During the period of disturbances on 10 August 1988, six people including Police Warrant Officer Kyi Mya were killed by unscrupulous persons.

The persons responsible for committing the crimes were later arrested through the joint efforts of the Armed Forces, people's police force, and the general public. A case was filed against them and the military tribunal after hearing the case passed various sentences on 19 October 1989. [passage omitted].

Soe Lwin alias Maung Soe, son of U Tin Hlaing, 21, residing at No. 19, Theikpan No. 1 Ward, 8th Ward, Thingangyun Township and Win Naing alias Na Kok, son of U Ohn Nyunt, 23, residing at No. 5, Thantumar Road, Gagy Ward, Thingangyun Township, both absconders guilty of committing the above crime were arrested on 10 December 1990 from information provided by the people. They were arrested by the Inbin Police Station of Myanaung Township and a case was filed against them. The military tribunal sentenced the two to death on 3 April 1991.

Insurgents Kill 11, Injure 6 in Southern Village

BK0804163191 Rangoon Burma Television Network
in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 April 91

[Excerpts] Fearful innocent villagers who were hiding in a bomb shelter were ruthlessly and inhumanly shot and killed by insurgents' small arms fire at Mawdon village, Tenasserim township, on 5 April.

At noon on 5 April, a combined force of about 30 Karen National Union insurgents, Muslim insurgents, and All Burma Students Democratic Front insurgents, entered Mawdon village in Tenasserim township. The fearful villagers hid inside the bomb shelter at the house of U Khin Maung Cho, chairman of the village law and order restoration council. The insurgents discovered the hiding villagers and ruthlessly fired at them with small arms without any reason.

As a result, 11 male and female villagers were killed on the spot and six others were wounded seriously. [passage omitted]

Our Armed Forces columns are diligently pursuing the insurgents.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore**Malaysia****10,000 Kedah Dissidents Expected To Rejoin UMNO**

BK0804112291 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 6 Apr 91 p 2

[By Saiful Azhar]

[Text] Alor Star, Fri.—About 10,000 Kedah Semangat 46 [Spirit of 46 Party] members are expected to join their State chairman Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin Johari in an exodus of party members into UMNO [United Malays National Organization].

Sources said Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin and Kedah Semangat 46 Wanita [women] leader Datin Hajah Salmah Mohamad Isa would announce their decision to quit the party before the nomination of the Bayu State by-election.

The sources said the exodus was expected in the Sik Parliamentary constituency as both leaders were influential there.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 members of Semangat 46 in the division were expected to follow the footsteps of Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin in quitting the party and join UMNO.

The sources added that there were efforts by Semangat 46 leaders to persuade Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin, who had been inactive in the party for the past five months, to stay on to lead the party.

"The leaders are offering Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin the chance to contest in Bayu but he has rejected the offer," the sources said.

It is learnt that Datuk Haji Zainol Abidin's decision to quit the party was because he was fed up with Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and other top leaders in their handling of party matters.

Among the issues that caused the dissatisfaction of party members were the poor handling of the plight of party members who were alleged to have been mistreated by Kelantan PAs [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party]-led State Government and the loose pact of the Semangat 46-PAs in last year's general election.

The sources said the party members were frustrated that the pact was not officially sealed.

Dissident Party To Block Takeover of UMNO Assets

BK0804114091 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 6 Apr 91 p 2

[By K.H. Lim]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri.—Semangat 46 [Spirit of 46 Party] has filed an objection to the new UMNO's [United Malays National Organization's] bid to take over the assets of the de-registered UMNO now held in trust by the Official Assignee.

Party secretary-general Datuk Haji Suhaimi Datuk Kamaruddin said today that he had sent a letter to the Official Assignee yesterday objecting to the application which he believed had been filed last month.

He said the objection was based on Section 17B of the Societies Act 1966 which stipulated two conditions for any new society to take over the assets of a defunct one.

"The two conditions under this section are that the constitution of the new society must be the same as the de-registered one and that at least 50 percent of the members must have joined the new society.

"In the case of the new UMNO, we feel that it does not meet the first condition as its constitution has several material differences with that of the old UMNO," Datuk Haji Suhaimi said.

"We are also questioning its claim that it has more than 50 per cent of old UMNO members," he added.

Datuk Haji Suhaimi told a Press conference that among the "material differences" in the new UMNO's constitution were:

- the provision of "subsidy votes" awarded to presidential candidates who were nominated by divisions; and,
- the appointment, instead of election, of the party's youth and wanita [women's] leaders.

Datuk Haji Suhaimi said that Semangat 46 had in fact met the first condition because it had adopted the entire constitution of the old UMNO except the change in name of the party.

"We had in fact tried to use the name UMNO Malaysia but this was rejected by the Registrar of Societies," he said.

He added: "Other than the name, we have used the entire constitution of the old UMNO."

However, Datuk Haji Suhaimi declined to say whether Semangat 46 was now claiming it had the required 50 percent of old UMNO members within its ranks.

He also did not want to say if Semangat 46 would file its own application to assume the assets of the old UMNO.

The party secretary-general would only say that it was part of the party's strategy to file the objection.

Ghafar Defends Reappointment of Islamic Teachers

*BK0804111691 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 5 Apr 91 p 3*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs.—The decision to reappoint the 2,463 missionaries and other religious personnel whose contracts were not renewed by the Kelantan Government was a routine obligation discharged by the Federal Government, Encik Abdul Ghafar Baba said today.

The Deputy Prime Minister said the Federal Government would always look after the religious needs and requirements of the people, including that of Kelantan.

That is why it decided to re-engage the 2,463 officials who had their services terminated by the Pas [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party] led State Government early this year.

Encik Ghafar said the reappointment was not done on behalf of the State Government but was a Barisan Nasional Government appointment as the Federal Government was also required to provide religious services and programmes for the people.

"The Federal Government is empowered to appoint its own officers because it could not neglect the religious needs and requirements of the people.

"It does not matter whether the Kelantan State Government recognises the appointment of those officers because they will be serving the people as Federal officers," he told reporters after chairing the National Forestry Council conference at Parliament House here.

Encik Ghafar was commenting on a statement by Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar Haji Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman that the State Government does not recognise the Federal re-engagement of these officials.

Haji Abdul Halim said the State would make its own appointments after Hari Raya Puasa [Id-al Fitr] stressing that matters of religion come strictly under the State's jurisdiction.

Encik Ghafar said the Federal Government can appoint its own religious officers to carry out missionary activities in any State in the country.

"The stand of the State Government clearly shows that they do not want to cooperate with us in efforts to enhance the teaching of Islam.

"How can they accuse us of treating them as a stepchild when we are appointing officers to complement the teaching of Islam by State Government-appointed officers?" he asked.

He said if Pas felt that the propagation of Islam in the State was the responsibility of the State Government alone, the party was sadly mistaken.

In Kota Baru, the secretary of the State Islamic Religious Council, Che Dir Ibrahim, said today the council could not revoke the recognition conferred on the 2,463 missionaries and religious officials re-appointed by the Federal Government.

The recognition could only be withdrawn if the officials had been proven to have deviated from Islamic teachings.

Islamic teachers were conferred the teaching recognition after they were capable of handling the subject.

"Each recognition is conferred after a thorough interview and the background of the applicant vetted in detail," he told the NEW STRAITS TIMES today.

Che Dir was commenting on reports quoting Deputy Menteri Besar Haji Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman as saying that the State Government may persuade the council not to recognise religious officials appointed by the Federal Government.

He said the Federal appointed-religious officials would lead to disunity in the State as the move could result in each mukim [Islamic parish] having two religious teachers.

Che Dir said there were two types of recognition conferred by the council. Firstly, to a person who has proven that he has the capability to teach, and secondly, to a person to teach by virtue of his appointment as a religious teacher or missionary.

Singapore

First Quarter Economic Growth Expected To Rise

*BK0804130491 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES
in English 6 Apr 91 p 1*

[Excerpt] Economic growth between January and March is expected to be about 7 per cent, higher than the 3 to 6 per cent forecast for the whole year, said Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong yesterday.

The estimate is based on preliminary figures available for January and February, which showed that all sectors of the economy—except tourism—performed well. Especially buoyant were finance and business services, and construction.

He said that if this momentum could be maintained, the Year of the Goat would turn out "much better than we had expected or feared." So far, the year ahead looked promising.

But, putting the matter in perspective, the first quarter growth was "still quite a lot less than the growth we enjoyed every year since 1988." Last year's growth rate was 8.3 per cent.

BG [Brigadier General] Lee, who is also the Trade and Industry Minister, was speaking at the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) Annual General Meeting dinner, attended by some 300 guests.

He began his speech, which focused on the role of the private sector in the economy and the perils of a welfare state, with a reiteration of the Government's policy of providing early warning—whether the news is good or bad.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait, and oil prices looked likely to shoot up, the Government had warned Singaporeans to tighten their belts. And when the swift allied victory changed the international economic mood, it also had to signal that things were returning to normal, "without generating excessive euphoria."

Although the Government had known during the time of the Budget that the economy was performing reasonably well, not all statistics were in and conditions were still too uncertain to make a new forecast.

Hence, this set the tone of the Budget, explaining why the Government was not more sympathetic to pleas by Members of Parliament to reduce business costs. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

Hor Namhong Gives Interview on Situation

BK0804115191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Apr 91

["Excerpts" of "recent" interview with Foreign Minister Hor Namhong by Cambodian TV team in the United States—read by announcers]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] I would like to ask Your Excellency about the progress in the search for peace for our country and the current measures you are taking in this process. I would like to get clear information so that I can explain the situation to our compatriots in the United States.

[Hor Namhong] Allow me to go back a little into the past to bring a clearer view of the present and future situation in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. It all started in August 1990 when the five powers that are the permanent members of the UN Security Council elaborated the so-called fundamental framework document for the Cambodian solution. On the basis of this Big-Five framework document, a meeting was held in Jakarta on 9 and 10 September 1990. During that meeting the Supreme National Council [SNC] with six representatives from Phnom Penh and six others from the government of Democratic Kampuchea was set up.

Following the establishment of the SNC—allow me to sum it up—the Big Five and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] worked

out a definitive draft agreement based on the above-mentioned document. On 21 and 22 December 1990 the cochairmen invited the 12 members of the SNC to Paris to give their opinions on this draft agreement. Following the Paris meeting, [words indistinct] that the Cambodian factions had accepted most of the points in the draft agreement and the remaining issues would be discussed in detail in the future among the SNC members and within the framework of the coordinating committee of the PICC. Therefore, for the time being, the stance of our State of Cambodia is to accept implementation of the final communique of the Paris meeting last December [words indistinct].

Concerning the efforts to end the war, in the outside world the majority of opinions such as press reports and commentaries seemed to be ready to shift the blame on Phnom Penh, charging that we became inflexible in our position or that we did not wish to solve the Cambodian problem politically.

Let me stress that we would implement the final communique of the 21-22 December meeting in Paris. This means that there must be an SNC session and, afterwards, a meeting of the PICC coordinating committee to discuss in detail all the remaining issues. What are the remaining issues of December's Paris meeting? We have sent a letter to the cochairmen of the conference in which we raised four major points.

First, we said that the Phnom Penh faction was always ready to reconvene the SNC session in accordance with this final communique to discuss the remaining issues. Of these, we raised three issues: first, the genocide; second, the military situation; and third, the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and the UN Charter. Why did Phnom Penh raise such issues? Everybody admits that there was genocide in Cambodia when more than 3 million of our compatriots perished. Everybody agrees with this puzzle: Why was no mention of genocide made in the draft agreement when the question of human rights was raised?

For this reason, I said that what we wished to have concerning the prevention of genocide were concrete measures to prevent the recurrence of the genocidal regime, because the return of the Khmer Rouge is not merely the figment of our imagination or merely propaganda, nor is it just empty words. It is a very real threat for the present. As you know, over the past few months the Khmer Rouge have been launching large-scale offensives against us, using tanks, artillery pieces, and even U.S.-made arms. For this reason, this threat by the Khmer Rouge is very real and serious. Consequently, we wish to have concrete measures to prevent this regime from returning to power and resuming the massacre of the Cambodian people.

This genocide issue, moreover, is a point closely related to the Cambodian solution: What would the danger to the Cambodian people be in the future? For this reason, the end of the war and the search for a political solution

must be conditional to the question of how to prevent the genocidal regime's return to Cambodia.

Cambodia signed the 1948 UN convention on the prevention and condemnation of the crime of genocide. Nevertheless, despite the fact that Cambodia was a signatory country of this convention, Pol Pot slaughtered millions of Cambodians between 1975 and 1978. And the world was quite indifferent. It is for this reason that we do not want to see something that had already happened under the Khmer Rouge regime happen again. On this point, therefore, I would like to reiterate that we merely wish to have concrete measures to prevent the return of the Khmer Rouge. However, the Khmer Rouge might return through military means, which they are trying most actively to do at the present, or through a political solution. By political solution I mean the Khmer Rouge's trying to return with Samdech Sihanouk by staying behind Samdech Sihanouk. And this is a danger that we should not overlook, for they are currently in a coalition government of the three factions of Khmer Rouge, Son Sann, and Samdech Sihanouk. [Words indistinct] a coalition government, as you know and as the whole world knows, in this tripartite coalition the Khmer Rouge constitutes the main force. Consequently, would they agree to let His Excellency Son Sann or Samdech Sihanouk wield more power than they do if they are the backbone in the victorious attack to seize power militarily? Even in a political solution, because they are the main force, will they agree to let Samdech Sihanouk or His Excellency Son Sann lead the country without their participation?

For this reason, I would like to inform you that the threat, the danger of the Khmer Rouge's return is not imagination, illusion, nor idle talk. It is a fact; it is real.

The second question which we called the remaining issue to be discussed further is the military question. This question is vital to the survival of our nation. We hold that when there is a political solution, regrouping armies in various camps, disarmament in place, and the strict ban on troops from removing arms from the positions should be placed under the control of the United Nations with records listing numbers of all troops and weapons submitted to the United Nations which thoroughly checks all these lists. We believe that this is a concrete and sufficient measure to guarantee security and a neutral political climate for holding free and correct elections. In order to achieve that, there is no need to go so far as disarming and dissolving the armies. The new government born out of the elections would be responsible for organizing the future national army of Cambodia. Why did we say that there is no need for disarming and dissolving the armies as proposed by the PICC cochairmen's draft agreement? This is because anyone can understand that it is very easy to disarm and dissolve the army of the Phnom Penh faction which is a regular army with specific camps and positions in the provinces, districts, communes, and villages. But who can guarantee the disarming and dissolving of the armies of the Khmer Rouge and their allies? Everybody knows

that the Khmer Rouge have hidden their arms in the jungles, but who can verify it? For this reason, when Phnom Penh disarms and dissolves its army under UN control, the other side continues to hide arms and troops all over the jungles. Will this guarantee security for the Cambodian people and ensure a neutral atmosphere for the elections?

Therefore, my opinion is that not disarming and not dissolving the armies is a concrete measure to prevent the return of the genocidal regime.

The third question that I also called one of the remaining issues is the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and the UN Charter. The UN Charter stipulates: Countries that are members of the United Nations are states having equal rights and equal sovereignty. Therefore, when I say Cambodia, I mean all of Cambodia, the Cambodian state as a whole, the Cambodian nation. I do not mean only the Phnom Penh faction. Since Cambodia is a UN member, Cambodia's sovereignty must be recognized by the United Nations as in the past. Moreover, the framework document elaborated by the Big Five stressed that the SNC symbolizes Cambodia's sovereignty during the period of transition. By transitional period, we mean the time from the day we sign the agreement to the end of the elections and creation of a new government. It is during this transitional period that the SNC represents Cambodia's sovereignty.

The framework document also stipulated that this SNC will hand over some powers to the United Nations during this transitional period because it is the symbol of Cambodia's sovereignty. What powers will the SNC hand over to the United Nations? It is for this reason that we want to reconvene the SNC to discuss the remaining issues, to know what powers will the SNC which symbolizes Cambodia's sovereignty hand over to the United Nations. What powers? For this question, we do not demand that the Phnom Penh faction be the only one to decide. We demand that the SNC, with the six representatives from the other side, be the one to decide.

[Correspondent] What [words indistinct] of the SNC? What level and limitation will the UN authority coming to help rebuild our country have?

[Hor Namhong] Thank you for raising this question which has been widely discussed abroad and which has caused much misunderstanding.

The State of Cambodia always welcomes the important role of the United Nations in the search for the Cambodian solution. We always welcome the important role of the United Nations in the period of transition. Allow me to make it very clear that we do not reject the UN role. What we want is another SNC session to implement the final communique of last December's Paris meeting and to discuss a number of specific questions, namely the draft agreement elaborated by the PICC cochairmen, that is, the question of genocide. On this point, should these factions agree, we are ready not to talk about the past so that the other side would not be embarrassed.

However, in the future, we will have to talk about it and take concrete preventive measures. If all Cambodian factions agree not to have a genocidal regime in the future, I personally think that there will be no difficulties. If we have the same desire, we should take concrete measures to prevent the recurrence of the genocidal problem.

The same thing applies to the military question. The SNC should [words indistinct]. More important still, the SNC should also make decisions on the ways and methods of elections, for the SNC represents Cambodia's sovereignty, meaning that it represents all of Cambodia. It is this body which will examine and decide what powers should be handed over to the United Nations, what electoral laws and procedures should be adopted, and what the future Cambodian constitution will be based on. All these issues must be decided by Cambodians. No foreign countries should be allowed to dictate them to us. The future of Cambodia must be determined by Cambodians. In other words, it is based on the sovereignty of Cambodia, namely the SNC. Therefore, there are a number of concrete issues that we want to discuss with the other side during the SNC session. However, I would like to take this opportunity to advise you that so far the other side has expressed no desire to reconvene the SNC, except meeting with the PICC cochairmen, on the grounds that Samdech Sihanouk is not the chairman of the SNC. However, whether Samdech Sihanouk is or is not the chairman has nothing to do with us. At the Jakarta meeting in September 1990, we were prepared to make Samdech Sihanouk the chairman, but he did not turn up. The Indonesian president invited him twice and Samdech Sihanouk still refused to go. During the September Jakarta meeting we discussed the composition of the SNC and the samdech announced in Beijing that he took a six-month leave of absence from all political activities.

This was in no way our fault. It was the samdech's. When the SNC held its official session, the other side was reluctant to attend on the grounds that Samdech Sihanouk was not given the post of SNC chairman. Later on, [words indistinct] in Paris the samdech told the French foreign minister that he was no longer a candidate for the post of SNC chairman. Therefore, in this question, we must reconvene the SNC to advance toward solving the Cambodian problem once and for all. That being said, we have no desire to completely reject the possibility that Samdech Sihanouk would come into the SNC composition and become its chairman. We always say that if the other side proposes that we reshuffle the composition of the SNC so that Samdech Sihanouk would become its chairman, we are prepared to examine the question and to cooperate in that task.

U.S. Senators Arrive in Phnom Penh 5 Apr

*BK0604063691 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0409 GMT 6 Apr 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 6—U.S. Senators John McCain and Phil Gramm of the Republican Party,

arrived here Friday [5 April] aboard a U.S. C-12 military aircraft for a three-day fact-finding visit to Cambodia.

The two senators were accompanied by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Lorn Craner [name as received] and other officials.

The American guests were welcomed at Pochentong Airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Long Visalo and others.

In the same afternoon, the American guests were received by Prime Minister Hun Sen. They are scheduled to be received by National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim Saturday and by Foreign Minister Hor Namhong in the evening.

They plan to visit the well-known Angkor Wat Temple in Siam Reap- Oddar Meanchey Province, more than 300 km to the northwest of Phnom Penh, before departing from Phnom Penh Sunday morning.

Hun Sen Receives Delegation

*BK0704065691 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Apr 91*

[Text] On the morning of 5 April, a delegation of U.S. senators from the Republican Party led by John McCain arrived to the State of Cambodia for a fact-finding visit.

Welcoming the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Long Visalo, deputy foreign minister, as well as several other leading cadres.

On the afternoon of the same day at the Council of Ministers' office, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, granted an audience to the U.S. delegation.

On that occasion, Comrade Hun Sen reaffirmed the goodwill stance of the party and government of the State of Cambodia in seeking an early political solution for the Cambodian problem with a view to ending the suffering and bloodshed of the Cambodian people.

In his reply, John McCain pledged to bring information he had collected from Cambodia to the knowledge of the U.S. Government so as to assist the State of Cambodia in achieving a genuine peace without the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Chea Sim Receives Delegation

*BK0804035191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Apr 91*

[Text] On the morning of 6 April at the Chamka Mon State Palace, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense,

received the delegation of U.S. senators led by John McCain, U.S. senator from the Republican Party.

Comrade Chairman Chea Sim expressed a warm welcome to and informed the delegation of the developments in the State of Cambodia in the past more than 12 years and of the State of Cambodia Government's goodwill in its efforts to seek peace for the Cambodian people.

In his reply, John McCain expressed deep thanks to Chairman Chea Sim and the State of Cambodia Government for arranging facilities for his delegation's visit to Cambodia. He promised to inform his government of the facts in Cambodia so as to assist the Cambodian people in all efforts to seek peace and urgent measures to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning to Cambodia.

Chea Sim Visits Kratie Province

*BK0604120191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Apr 91*

[Summary from poor reception] A ceremony to plant a pipal tree was recently held in Kratie provincial seat in the presence of a large crowd. "On 4 April at 0900, the helicopter carrying the high-ranking party and state delegation, lead by Comrade Chea Sim [passage indistinct], slowly lowered itself from the sky and landed at the provincial sports compound. Comrade Chea Sim immediately left the aircraft and received the pipal tree passed on by Comrade Min Khin and handed it to the province's chief monk. Chea Sim then shook hands with Comrade Thoek Kroeunvuttha, secretary of the provincial party committee; Comrade Nu Thoeung, chairman of the provincial people's committee."

"On the morning of 5 April, the province's party committee and people's committee solemnly organized a ceremony to plant the pipal tree." Among the presiding committee at the ceremony were "Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] National Council; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and vice chairman of the party Central Control Commission; Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairperson of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Som Kimsuor, member of the party Central Committee and editor of the paper PRACHE-ACHON; Comrade Major General Sin Sen, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy interior minister; Comrade Thoek Kroeunvuttha, secretary of the Kratie provincial party committee; Comrade Nu Thoeung, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee; Comrade Chhim Seng, deputy communications, transport, and posts minister; and Comrade Min Khin, chef de cabinet of the KUFNCD National Council."

In his welcoming speech, Thoek Kroeunvuttha stressed that Buddhism has been revived in the country and that this reflects the correct leadership of the party and government. Afterward Min Khin read a decision granting the pipal tree to Kratie Province.

"Speaking at this solemn occasion, Comrade Chea Sim recalled the tragedy and destruction caused by the genocidal Pol Pot regime in three years, eight months, and 20 days, during which Buddhism was savagely destroyed. Comrade Chea Sim expressed profound gratitude to the Indian Government and people for providing pipal trees to be planted in Cambodia for followers to worship according to their wishes and desire. Comrade Chea Sim informed the clergy, Buddhists, and local people about the current Cambodian situation and the goodwill of our party and government in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. The comrade stressed that our government has made many concessions to the other Cambodian side but the latter still hinders our goodwilled peace process and has instead intensified military activities to savagely sow destruction and crimes on innocent Cambodian people living in remote areas. On behalf of the party, government, and the front, Comrade Chea Sim appealed to Buddhists and people in Kratie Province, as well as throughout the country, to continue heightening vigilance to oppose the perfidious maneuvers of the genocidal alliance and unite to absolutely thwart attempts of the genocidal Pol Pot regime to return. Comrade Chea Sim [words indistinct] to pay attention to promoting the movement to urge relatives, children, and husbands to serve in the Army to defend the motherland and the people's peaceful life."

"Afterward, Comrade Chea Sim took part in the ceremony to offer food to 80 monks in accordance with Buddhist practice. The ceremony ended at 1030."

Inaugurates Bridge

*BK0804131491 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Apr 91*

[Text] A solemn ceremony to inaugurate Andeng Dong Bridge was held in Kratie Province on 4 April under the lofty chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, with the active participation of the local cadres, staff, teachers, students, and ethnic minority groups.

According to the report read by Comrade Thoek Kroeunvuttha, the bridge, which has is over 37 meters long and five meters wide, can support a load of up to 16 metric tons. It is located on National Route 13, about 150 meters from the township of Kratie District. Andeng Dong Bridge was under construction from 11 January to 31 March 1991 and costs over 13,167,000 riels. The bridge, which is the new achievement scored by the

province's workers, was officially opened by Comrade Chea Sim for public use. This is to serve the needs of the people.

World Vision To Set Up Office in Phnom Penh

*BK0604132791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Apr 91*

[Text] On the afternoon of 4 April at the Wat Phnum Hotel, a ceremony was organized to sign a cooperation agreement between the State of Cambodia's Government and World Vision. In this ceremony, Comrade Phi Thach, State of Cambodia's deputy foreign minister, signed the agreement with Graeme Irvine, president of World Vision.

On this occasion the two sides agreed on the contribution to socio-economic development in Cambodia, including financial, material, and technical assistance. The two sides agreed on the opening of a World Vision office in Phnom Penh and guarantees for its staff as well as the provision of necessary material and funds for the establishment of the office. Furthermore, the two sides agreed on the draft program of relief activities. These should proceed along with communications and consultations with local people's state authorities.

This ceremony ended in a cordial atmosphere and mutual understanding.

Assistance Given to Refugees in Kompong Chhnang

*BK0604095691 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0401 GMT 6 Apr 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 6—International humanitarian organisations in Cambodia and the provincial Red Cross of Kompong Chhnang, some 90 km from Phnom Penh to the northwest, have given more assistance to settle down at three camps with their relatives in safer areas. [sentence as received]

In the first quarter of this year, the provincial Red Cross provided the war refugees with 2.75 million riels (Cambodian currency) worth of aid, which had been donated by the local authorities and the agricultural service. The aid included 430 pairs of buckets, two tons of chemical fertilizer, sewage pipes, and vegetable seeds.

Meanwhile, international organisations including UNICEF, the International Red Cross Committee (CICR), World Food Program (PAM) and OXFAM gave the war refugees 500 tons of husked rice and 500 bales of clothes, medicines and household consumer goods.

AFP: Phnom Penh Troops Conscript at Gunpoint

*BK0804161491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1603 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Bangkok, April 8 (AFP)—More than 200 Phnom Penh troops stormed Cambodian border market Monday

and forced young Cambodians at gunpoint to become soldiers, Cambodian officials and Thai traders said.

About 60 Cambodian men between ages 15 and 20 were rounded up and taken away in Soviet-made ZIL-151 trucks in front of thousands of frightened traders and Thai tourists at the northwestern market of Poi Pet, 15 kilometers (nine miles) from the border.

One Cambodian trader whose 16-year-old son were drafted said the forced conscription should not have taken place when the year is approaching.

"The timing is really bad. Family get-togethers are what new year is all about. Why couldn't they do this after new year," he asked.

Cambodian military officials at the town said the conscripts, who were forced into service as part of a nationwide drive, would be sent to the northwestern province of Banteay Meanchey for a two-week training course.

The forced conscription came as Thai military officials speculated that fighting between Phnom Penh troops and the Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla coalition would resume after the traditional Cambodian new year on April 13.

The Beijing-backed guerrillas have been fighting for 12 years to topple the central government installed in Phnom Penh by Vietnam.

Commentary Says Enemy Sends Citizens to Camps

*BK0604091591 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic
Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Apr 91*

[“News Commentary”: “The Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Have Intensified Rounding Up and Sending Our People to Concentration Camps in the Most Cruel and Barbarous Manner”]

[Text] According to reports from Kompong Speu Town, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have lately rounded up hundreds of families of our people and have sent them to concentration camps located on Route National 4, west of the provincial town.

Shortly after arriving in the camps, the men have been forced in the most cruel and barbarous ways to serve as soldiers to fight and die in the place of the Vietnamese. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have fiercely intensified their activities to round up and send our people to concentration camps.

These camps are vacant fields where our people live without shelter, water, food, medicine, and so on. So, they face famine and malaria and die miserably everyday. Moreover, our people have been plundered, murdered, and conscripted into the army or and have been brutally and barbarously forced to undertake K-5 labor. As for the women, they have been raped and then bayoneted to death by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

That being the case, we appeal to our people in their so-called concentration camps to unite and join forces with our national resistance forces to more vigorously stage all forms of revolt against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to free ourselves from their evil grasp.

Only by so doing can we protect the lives of our people, and contribute to the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to liberate our Cambodian territory in the near future.

VONADK: SRV Espionage Schools Established

BK0604114591 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Text] At present and especially since the agreement on the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] reached in Jakarta on 10 September 1990, the race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the traitorous puppets, their lackeys, have set up more espionage schools. Each school is controlled by the Vietnamese who also provide training courses on espionage. This is aimed at organizing sabotage activities to serve the Vietnamese race-exterminating current war of aggression. This is also to plant their elements for staging sabotage to create insecurity in Cambodia in the future so that Vietnam will be able to swallow Cambodia, and then incorporate it into the Hanoi Vietnamese's Indochinese federation strategy.

The race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their traitorous lackey puppets employ their agents who disguise themselves as women, the daughters of our people; as the elderly; as prisoners escaping from the Vietnamese enemy aggressors; as Cambodian soldiers rallying to our national resistance forces; as Cambodian soldiers captured on battlefields; and so on.

Our national resistance and the people's great national union forces have seen through the poisonous maneuvers carried out by the race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their traitorous lackey puppets. They have also successively discovered the Vietnamese agents.

The radio of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea wishes to appeal to all the Cambodian national resistance forces and the entire Cambodian people to further heighten their vigilance and to keep an eye on the implanted Vietnamese enemy agents to expose and to crush them. The most effective way is to rely on the forces of the people and masses which are populous everywhere in villages and communes. This is because the people and masses are pools of eyes, noses, ears, and the most zealous strength for fighting off all maneuvers of the race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their traitorous lackeys and puppets.

Three 'Major Offensives' Launched in Pailin

BK0904052391 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 8 Apr 91

[“Preliminary results of the attack and routing of three major offensives launched by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors on Route 10- Pailin battlefield”]

[Text] The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have set up a plan to seize the liberated zone from our national resistance forces on Route 10-Pailin battlefield in this 13th dry season of 1991 for use in serving their deceitful diplomacy to destroy the UN Security Council's document for ending the war of aggression against Cambodia.

The first phase of this Vietnamese plan: The offensive on this battlefield began in mid-October 1990 with the use of over 30 tanks, dozens of artillery pieces, dozens of multiple rocket batteries, 4,000 Vietnamese troops, and 2,000 puppet troops. Following seven days of fighting, our national resistance forces routed the Vietnamese enemies and forced them to retreat. We destroyed 12 tanks, three artillery pieces, and two multiple rocket batteries; damaged eight tanks; killed over 180 Vietnamese soldiers; and wounded over 300 others.

The second phase: Following the heavy defeats suffered in their first offensive plan in terms of manpower, tanks, artillery, and multiple rocket batteries, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent more tanks, artillery, multiple rocket batteries, and Vietnamese forces through Phnom Penh to carry on the second phase of their offensive plan on this Route 10-Pailin battlefield. But our national resistance forces would not let the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors initiate the offensive. Our national resistance forces initiated the offensive against the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors at the beginning of January 1991, attacking their forces both on Route 10 and moving westward from Route 10. Following a 10-day battle, we destroyed over 80 percent of the Vietnamese depots containing arms and war materiel located along Route 10 and eight tanks on Route 10 and west of Route 10; damaged six tanks; killed over 200 Vietnamese soldiers; and wounded over 400 others.

In this second phase, we observed that the morale of the Vietnamese enemies dropped to a lower level than before. Most of the Vietnamese forces dared not venture out to fight as planned. They depended only on tanks and artillery pieces. Whenever the Vietnamese tanks were destroyed or damaged by the national resistance forces, the Vietnamese ground forces would immediately become demoralized and retreat. Moreover, the Vietnamese soldiers were very afraid of the anti-tank and anti-personnel mines laid by our national resistance forces. The Vietnamese soldiers often cried out loudly that many of their fellows were killed by Khmer Rouge mines. Everywhere there were mines. Tanks as well as infantrymen hit mines.

The third phase: After the successive failure of their first and second offensives on Route 10-Pailin battlefield, the Vietnamese enemies sent General Le Duc Anh to Phnom

Penh. This man was formerly the chief of general staff of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors in Cambodia. He is currently defense minister and member of the Hanoi leadership's Political Bureau. Le Duc Anh came to Phnom Penh to prepare the attacks on Route 10-Pailin battlefield in an attempt to realize their offensive plan by April 1991, that is before the current 13th dry season ends. Thus, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent a large number of Vietnamese troops from Vietnam. The Vietnamese enemies launched this third-phase offensive for 30 days, that is from 15 February to 15 March 1991. The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors tried hard with their onslaughts, using many tanks, artillery pieces, and great manpower. But, the more materiel and manpower they used, the more losses they suffered. They suffered losses of many tanks destroyed or damaged and many casualties due to the mine networks set everywhere by our national resistance forces. Meanwhile, our commandos kept attacking the enemies night and day from the front, rear, and flanks. Particularly, our strategic and tactical artillery pieces kept pounding the Vietnamese tanks and infantrymen pinpointed by our guerrillas actively operating behind enemy lines.

Following 30 days of fighting, this third-phase plan mapped out by General Le Duc Anh was totally smashed. Over 300 Vietnamese troops were killed and over 500 others were wounded. We destroyed 11 tanks and five artillery pieces and damaged nine others. Since mid-March, the Vietnamese forces dared not raise their heads from Route 10. They spent days and nights building (?installations) along Route 10, digging deep trenches and ditches, and planting large and small mines around their positions. Our national resistance forces called these Vietnamese forces who were [words indistinct] hiding themselves along Route 10 and attempting to defend Route 10 as rats in holes.

By now, the current 13th dry season has gone on for five months. The 13th dry season will end officially within the next 20 days. Rain has begun to fall in some places. Water from each rainfall has turned low fields into swamps blocking the movement of the Vietnamese tanks and their heavy artillery. In such a situation, would the Vietnamese infantrymen who depend only on tanks and artillery dare to raise their heads from their holes?

Emphasis:

1. The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors' 13th dry season plan for Route 10-Pailin battlefield is a major plan aimed at seizing our liberated Pailin region for use in serving their deceitful diplomacy to destroy the UN Security Council document on Cambodia.

2. The Soviet Union, despite its own difficulties and shortages in economic and daily needs at home, has twice shipped a large number of arms, artillery pieces, tanks, and multiple rocket batteries to Kompong Som Port during this 13th dry season for serving the Vietnamese plan on this Route 10-Pailin battlefield.

This clearly shows that the Vietnamese enemies and the Soviet Union have been attempting to destroy the UN

document on the comprehensive political resolution to end the Vietnamese war of aggression. This clearly shows that thieves always remain thieves; that the aggressors remain the aggressors; and that those who have trampled upon international law and the UN Charter continue to commit crimes. Only by jointly continuing to struggle to frustrate the Vietnamese aggressors' plans and their all-around maneuvers in military, propaganda, economic, and diplomatic fields will it be possible to force the Vietnamese enemies to accept the UN Security Council document on ending the Vietnamese war of aggression. Only by so doing will Cambodia regain independence and peace and will Southeast Asia enjoy genuine peace, security, and stability.

Five Villages Liberated in Kampot District

BK0604071191 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Text] On 26 March, our national resistance forces launched a five-pronged attack to rout and dismantle village administrative networks of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets in Kampot District on Kampot battlefield. The first prong was mounted against Kdei Village, the second against the office building of Kep Commune, the third against a Vietnamese-puppet company defending Route 16, the fourth directed toward East against Pong Toek Village and Veal Vong, and the fifth directed from Kev Krasang Village toward Damnak Chang-aeu.

After one hour of battle, we completely liberated the five fronts, and we killed four, wounded seven, and captured two enemy soldiers. We destroyed a commune office building, five warehouses with many hundred metric tons of salt, a husking machine, two water pumps, four boat engines, and two bridges with a length of 30 meters. We seized six AK's, five SKS', 15 [words indistinct], two motorbikes, and some war materiel. We liberated the following five villages: Kev Krasang, Kev Krasang Kraom, Damnak Chang-aeu, Prey Thom, and Sbov. We freed 15 village officials as well.

Indonesia

Second Pro-Democracy Movement Launched 8 Apr

BK0804154691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, April 8 (AFP)—The second Indonesian pro-democracy movement announced in a week was launched here Monday, with the goal of persuading voters to boycott the 1992 election.

"It is the basic right of the people not to vote," said Johannes Princen, a leading Indonesian human rights campaigner who co-founded the league for the restoration of democracy with three other activists. "There must be a choice in any election," Mr. Princen said at a press conference. He said the three political parties allowed to

contest the parliamentary election expected in the middle of next year would not offer real alternatives because they would be subject to tight government scrutiny.

For the past three months the government has campaigned to encourage everyone to vote in the election, the fifth since President Suharto came to power in 1968.

Some 8.7 per cent of the 94 million eligible voters either failed to vote or cast invalid ballot papers in the last election in 1987, which, given the government's push for a 100 per cent turnout, was interpreted by dissident leaders as a sign of widespread discontent with the current electoral system.

Mr. Princen said the league also would urge the National Consultative Assembly, the highest government body according to the Constitution, to hold an emergency congress and ask Mr. Suharto to account for his leadership.

"The experience in the last 25 years in the existence of the Republic of Indonesia has proven that democratic life is in such a deplorable state that it causes anxiety and endangers the continuation of democracy itself," the league said in a statement.

Last week, a group of about 45 scholars and non-government leaders announced formation of the Forum Demokrasi (Democratic Forum). One of its spokesman said that, despite the holding of elections, "the spirit of democracy is still missing" in Indonesia.

"There is no difference between us," Mr. Princen said of the forum. "Maybe they are doing it the elite way while we are more populist."

Mr. Princen, a Netherlands native but now a naturalised Indonesian citizen, is also chairman of the Institute for the Defence of Human Rights (LPHAM) and president of the Independent Setiakawan (Solidarity) Trade Union.

The other three members of the league's presidium are Sunardi, a lawyer and former leader of a nationalist student movement, Eggi Sudjana, a former leader of the association of Muslim University students, and Hamid Husein, an LPHAM activist.

Minister Urges Forum Not To Go Beyond Function

*BK0804153491 Jakarta Domestic Service
in Indonesian 1500 GMT 8 Apr 91*

[Text] Minister and State Secretary Mardiono has urged the Forum Demokrasi [Democratic Forum], which was recently established under the sponsorship of Abdulrahman Wahid [a prominent Muslim scholar], not to go beyond its function as a communication forum among intellectuals. Abdulrahman Wahid said this in Jakarta today after calling on the minister and state secretary to explain the background of the establishment of the forum. He said this forum was established by 45 intellectuals as a

means to develop democracy. In reply to Minister Mardiono's question on the membership of the forum, Abdulrahman Wahid said anyone could become a member, but this forum will not become a mass organization.

Alatas Hopes for Cambodian Meeting 'Immediately'

*BK0804095891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0930 GMT
8 Apr 91*

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 8 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has expressed his hope that the informal meeting among members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC) and the co-chairmen of Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) could be held in Jakarta immediately.

Alatas told reporters here Monday that he continued to make contact with Paris in order to make peace effort on the Cambodian problem and to hold an immediate meeting.

The minister, who is a co-chairman of the PICC together with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, said that the meeting is expected to be held in Jakarta after the 'Id al-Fitr post-fasting day.

The SNC meeting, which is the continuation of the Paris SNC meeting, will be held before the meeting of a coordination committee which will discuss comprehensive solution to the 12-year-old Cambodian conflict.

"It would need time to give all sides to make preparations for the meeting, Alatas said, adding: We have to wait".

In the meantime, Prince Norodom Sihanouk was reported in Beijing that he is prepared to attend the SNC informal meeting which will be held in Jakarta in the near future. Minister Alatas has previously expressed his concern over the uncertainty of the concerned parties on the holding of the SNC informal meeting.

Minister Denies Oil Price War in OPEC

*OW0604055391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT
6 Apr 91*

[Text] Jakarta, April 6 KYODO—Indonesia's minister of mining and energy denied there is an oil price war among members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the newspaper DAILY MEDIA INDONESIA reported Saturday.

A Saudi Arabian decision to cut the price of May oil shipments to Japan is a normal price adjustment, not a discount, said Ginandjar Kartasasmita.

"There is no discount war because such a thing never existed in OPEC," DAILY MEDIA INDONESIA quoted Ginandjar as saying.

Indonesia's oil production currently stands at 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd), and it will drop to 1.44 million bpd under OPEC's recent decision in Geneva to cut output to 22.3 million bpd in April from 23.5 million bpd.

Ginandjar said in March that Indonesia expected the average low price for oil to go to 21 dollars a barrel between August and October.

Indonesia is the eighth largest oil producer in the 13-nation OPEC. It exports most of its oil to Japan.

McDonnell Douglas Selected To Launch Satellite

*BK0904073691 Jakarta Domestic Service
in Indonesian 0600 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Text] Indonesia has decided that its Palapa B-4 satellite will be launched aboard a U.S. Delta rocket manufactured by the McDonnell Douglas aircraft company. The cost of launching the Palapa B-4 satellite has been estimated at \$44 million.

In a press statement issued in Bandung yesterday, Chachuk Sudaryanto, first director of Perumtel, said that three companies which had offered their services to launch the Palapa B-4 satellite met the desired conditions. After making a thorough evaluation of the administrative, technological, and economic aspects, the Delta rocket was finally chosen to launch the satellite.

Two other industrial concerns that had offered their services to launch the Palapa B-4 satellite were the China Great Wall Industry with its March-3 rocket and France's Ariane Space Industry with its Ariane rocket.

According to Chacuk Sudaryanto, the Palapa B-4 satellite is scheduled to be launched in March 1992.

Laos

SPA Representative Speaks at Party Congress

*BK0604125391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 5 Apr 91*

[Statement by Thongsing Thammavong, representative of the Supreme People's Assembly and member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, at the Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] People's councils at the local level have been operating according to their predesignated roles and duties. During the meetings to deliberate and endorse socioeconomic development plans and budget bills for their respective localities, the people's councils at the provincial, municipal, and district levels practiced democracy extensively. The people's councils in some localities during their recess encouraged the delegates to meet the people to listen to their demands and inform them of their activities. Generally, the local people's councils are operating only in the initial stage as this is a new task for them. In line with its fundamental political duties, the Second Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] has endeavored to organize the implementation of a number of tasks as follows:

Enactment and promulgation of 16 criminal, civil, and economic laws. This is a fairly complete set of laws for this initial stage. The people praised and supported the state's intention to manage and administer the country with laws. The people's court system has been established and public prosecution organizations have been set up at the center and in provinces, municipalities, and large towns in the low plains. The public prosecution organizations have been operating according to their roles and duties in checking all violations of the laws and people's right to mastery. It is important that we have basically completed writing the first draft constitution of the popular democratic system. The SPA and the Constitution Drafting Committee has enthusiastically studied and compiled a draft constitution based on lessons previously learned by friendly and fraternal countries and from information and opinions gathered from localities and sectors. This is in compliance with guidance from the party Central Committee Political Bureau that the draft constitution be linked to the political tasks in the new era of the party and the immediate revolutionary requirements, and that it conforms with the Lao multiethnic people's mentality. The draft constitution has been popularized and presented to the people in the form of discussion campaigns by making full use of all mass media. It is important to note that the popular democratic system has been promoted among cadres, state employees, workers, soldiers, police, and people of all strata and has created the sense of law abidance among them. The people openly criticize and report on activities of cadres at different levels. After receiving opinions from the people, we have been working on the improvement of the draft constitution before submitting it to the SPA for consideration and endorsement and promulgation.

From the very beginning, we have acknowledged that creating a draft constitution and laws and turning to laws to manage the state are urgent demands. However, this is a new task for us, even as law-abidance among the multiethnic people is still low. We lack experiences and legal specialists and cadres as society pressures the state to enact more laws. Therefore, we have to observe the party's instruction to enact laws gradually and according to their necessity. We also have studied and promulgated several laws during the constitution drafting.

In addition to the abovementioned undertakings, the SPA pays attention to the improvement of relations with foreign countries. For example, we have increased relations with parliaments of many friendly and fraternal countries such as the SRV, the State of Cambodia, the Soviet Union, the PRC, and others. We have become a member of the Executive Committee of the Interparliamentary Union, thus contributing to the enhancement of the role and prestige of our state in the international arena.

The election of the second SPA, the draft constitution discussion campaigns, and movements of the people's councils at different levels as well as undertakings of a

similar nature in other sectors have significantly contributed to the increase in political consciousness of the multiethnic people, in particular, the broadening of popular democracy. The party, working with specified objectives, expectations, good organization and leadership, discipline, and its past successes, has won the people's confidence. The people are willing to participate in economic construction and education, and cultural and public health development. They are also willing to join the armed forces for national defense and maintenance of peace and order so that this goal is secured in society and to contribute to the improvement and construction of the administrative power at the grass-roots level. National unity and concord among tribes have also improved with each passing day.

To enhance the success of this congress and implement political system restructuring, we will, for the time being, intensify our efforts on the following:

1. Expeditiously study and revise the contents of the draft constitution in response to the resolution adopted by this congress before submitting it to the SPA for consideration, endorsement, and promulgation.

2. Study and promulgate trade, land, and economic laws and expeditiously amend the Election Law and the SPA Law so that they will be compatible with the constitution to be promulgated in the future.

3. Study and inspect the enforcement of laws which have been promulgated and gradually realize state management by law throughout society.

4. To restructure the political system of our country in accordance with the spirit and contents of the resolution of this congress. After the constitution is promulgated, we will begin the necessary preparations for the election of the Third SPA.

5. Since we still lack capable and qualified law-enforcing cadres, it is necessary to encourage ministries and organizations concerned to organize legal training courses for cadres. At the same time, we must pay attention to the renovation of the people's court system and public prosecution organizations at the local level so that they can function accordingly.

I firmly believe that if all organizations, sectors, and localities are closely coordinated, we will be able to fulfill the said tasks and victoriously realize the success of this congress.

Oudom Khatthi-gna Addresses Youth Seminar 4 Apr
BK0804064191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Text] Yesterday morning at the Theoretical School of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union [LPRYU] at (Phonthan), Oudom Khatthi-gna, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, person in charge of guiding

mass organizations, and head of the party Central Committee Organizational Board, addressed the seminar of the eighth group of youths. The seminar, which was opened on 4 March, was attended by 55 youths from the central provinces and many ministries and ministerial-level organizations.

On that occasion, Oudom Khatthi-gna reviewed the success of the Fifth Party Congress, assessing the international situation, implementation of the policy of restructuring under the popular democratic system, and the relations between the party and youths.

At the end he called on the LPRYU, its members, and multiethnic youths in all spheres of work throughout the country to further enhance unity among themselves, strive to defend and build the country, and triumphantly realize the resolution adopted by the Fifth Party Congress.

The report went on to say that earlier on the morning of 3 April, Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan, member of the Supreme People's Assembly and first secretary of the LPRYU Central Committee, also addressed the seminar, stressing that the aim of the restructuring among youth movements was to bring new and firm quality to them. She also touched on a sense of self-reliance in the economic and financial fields, relations between youths and the LPRP, and a number of other issues.

Army Units Celebrate Party Founding Anniversary
BK0804143291 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 26 Mar 91

[Text] Military units nationwide organized enthusiastic celebrations of the 36th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]. In addition to reviewing the traditions of the LPRP during the past 36 years, each military unit assessed achievements registered by its party organ in the past year and conferred promotions and rewards to outstanding men and officers for organizing and directing. The Advanced Military School, Army Signal School, and [words indistinct] in Vientiane also organized LPRP founding anniversary celebrations on 22 March, during which party cadres and members and the people reviewed the history of the LPRP and resolved to launch emulation campaigns to strengthen their party units and institutions.

Philippine

'4 Consecutive Blasts' Reported in Metro Manila
HK0904035891 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0100 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Authorities are carefully investigating the four consecutive blasts that took place at dawn today in various parts of Metro Manila. Up to now the perpetrators have not been identified. The bombings started at 1:45 up to 3:45 this morning. One person was injured and was identified as Ulyses Capispisan. He was immediately brought to the Cardinal Santos Hospital in San Juan.

The Bank of the Philippine Islands [BPI], located in front of Unimart in Ortigas, Greenhills, was bombed first. Then another BPI building at the corner of Epifanio de los Santos Avenue and Ortigas, in front of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, was bombed. The third bombing incident occurred at the Metropolitan Electric Company substation in Mandaluyong. The fourth took place at another BPI branch in Buendia Avenue Extension in Makati.

Rebel Soldiers Said Responsible

HK0904070591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] General Rodolfo Biazon today said that rebel soldiers are responsible for the three [as heard] consecutive bombings this morning, but he allayed fears that this incident is a new coup threat. The bombings took place in the three branches of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, and the Manila Electric Company building. According to General Biazon, military intelligence reports say rebel soldiers want their presence felt and are taking advantage of the resignation of Major General Alexander Aguirre as AFP deputy chief of staff.

President Aquino Reacts to Aguirre's Resignation

HK0804113491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] The president gave her reaction to the resignation of Major General Alexander Aguirre, Armed Forces deputy chief of staff, in a statement read by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III at a news briefing held at Malacanang this afternoon.

[Begin Gomez recording in English] The resignation of General Aguirre will go through the normal process. And insofar as the system is concerned, perhaps the story you will file will have to be corroborated or perhaps even include the stories that will have to be filed by those attending the press conference, because I understand that General Aguirre had a lengthy press conference after he read the letter. What apparently is—he did mention something about an absolute and irrevocable resignation from the position of deputy chief of staff. But I am told—and this is probably going to be confirmed by General Biazon—that late last week, he did file for an extended leave of absence that most probably runs through more than 450 days. [end recording]

Biazon Comments on Resignation

HK0804111591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] The new [as heard] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff General Rodolfo Biazon is presently holding a news conference where he announced the appointment of Commodore Proceso Fernandez as General Aguirre's replacement as deputy chief of staff, effective today. Meanwhile, Commodore Virgilio Marcelo

will take over, effective this Wednesday, as Philippine Military Academy superintendent.

Gen Biazon also said that Commodore Fernandez's tour of duty will start today. According to him, the reshuffling was triggered by General Aguirre's resignation and his own retirement this coming Friday [as heard].

[Begin Biazon recording in English] Since 1986, we have started certain steps toward reforms in the Armed Forces, and part of these reforms is the institutionalization of the selection process, the advancement of an officer [words indistinct]. And the president has announced the categories to be used in the selection of officers especially in the higher positions, such as the position of chief of staff. Now, whether or not there are other factors that may have been factored into the selection of General Abadia, as announced by General Aguirre, it is [words indistinct]. We do believe that the selection process adopted by the president is still the best to date so far. [end recording]

General Biazon also said that the military will not be greatly affected by the president's steps or General Aguirre's resignation. He added that General Aguirre, by virtue of his being a citizen, has the right to air his own opinions.

When asked if an investigation will be conducted into the steps taken by General Aguirre, General Biazon said there is no talk of investigating Aguirre's resignation. He added that the sole objective at the moment was to maintain the AFP's stability.

Anti-U.S. Bases Senator To Abide by Treaty

HK0904064991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Mar 91 p 4

[By Marcia Rodriguez and Diego Cagahastian]

[Text] Senator Joseph Ejercito Estrada, a staunch anti-U.S. bases advocate and a serious presidential contender in 1992, said over the weekend that he would abide by the terms of any new treaty on the United States military bases in the country, should such a treaty be signed by the RP [Republic of the Philippines] and U.S. governments and ratified by the Senate this year, even if it is unacceptable to him.

The former actor, however, would not allow continued access of U.S. military facilities in Philippine bases after the duration specified in the treaty, saying, "I do not want to prolong the agony of Filipinos." He noted the progress of Taiwan and Singapore after the U.S. military facilities had been withdrawn.

While realizing the involvement of the U.S. in installing Philippine presidents, Estrada expressed hope that the "vicious" cycle must stop so that the Filipinos' interests would be protected instead of the Americans and the multinational corporations.

Sen. Joseph Estrada also revealed that he has found a vice presidential running mate whom he described to be "a well-known Visayan, a new face, a non-traditional politician, a good economist involved in big business, 47 years old, male." Joseph Estrada's running mate, political advisers, and movie friends were with him during the Holy Week retreat on the senator-movie actor's sprawling farm in Tanay, Rizal fronting Camp Capinpin. Estrada said that the Visayan businessman has already agreed to be his running mate but the senator, however, stopped short of revealing his identity to members of the Malacanang Press Corps at a recent interview.

A known anti-bases advocate, Estrada said his vice president does not necessarily have to share his views against the presence of U.S. military facilities in the country. "I can convince him later on," he said.

Estrada also revealed that his priority would be to "unite" the people by offering general amnesty to all enemies of the state and free those in detention. But after general amnesty, the "full force of the law" will be applied, he stressed. He said he would pursue an "independent" foreign policy that is not dictated by Americans. Ties with socialist countries would be expanded, he added.

Disclaiming that he is a leftist as manifested by his anti-bases stand, the five-time FAMAS [Philippine equivalent of the Oscar awards] awardee said he would not allow himself to be used by any organization with a foreign ideology. "I am not a leftist nor a rightist, I am pure and simple for the Filipino's interest," he said.

Estrada noted that never before has the Filipino people been so divided, citing the factions of the leftists, rightists, Muslim secessionists, and loyalists cronies of former President Ferdinand Marcos. His defense secretary would not be a former military man, he noted, adding plans to change the selection of the chief of staff system to address all problems of the military.

On the economy, he said that pervasive graft and corruption even by the private sector through tax evasion must be addressed. He proposed tax amnesty and again stressed that the "full force of the law" would be applied thereafter. He said that his government would pursue a "negotiated" and selective repudiation of behest loans but would definitely change the country's debt negotiators, "the most sensitive" positions in the government since the international monetary institutions already know the "weaknesses" of the country.

He said he would retain some people in the present Cabinet of President Aquino, saying that he need not change people but change their attitude.

Asked what he could offer the people if he becomes president, Estrada said that he can provide "leadership with a cause." He expressed pride over the 17 years he has served as a local executive in San Juan during which the income had jumped from P [Philippine peso] 2.8 million to P24 million; and the five years he has spent in the legislative branch of government.

Saying that he has received numerous offers to be the vice presidential running mate of other presidential aspirants, Estrada indicated that he wanted the top post, no less. He said he may still accede to any of the proposals but ruled out running for the presidency with a woman. He said he had been a consistent winner and was encouraged by the warm response of the majority of the people belonging to the masses with whom he has been closely identified with. The three or four other presidential candidates would only garner 20 percent of total votes coming from the "intelligentsia," he said.

But while he is reportedly in the process of organizing his own Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP) [Party of Philippine Masses] which will be registered next month with the Commission on Elections (Comelec), he has not ruled out the possibility of coalescing with other political parties, particularly Sen. Aquilino Pimentel's PDP-Laban [Philippine Democratic Party—struggle of the nation]. He added that the issue of rejoining Senate President Jovito Salonga's Liberal Party [LP] is "moot and academic." Estrada bolted from the LP over his disappointment over the "undemocratic" way of choosing the standard bearer for the party.

Estrada, who has been the butt of so-called "Erap jokes" that focus on his alleged poor grammar and poor intellect as seen in the movies, said that these jokes have in fact made him closer to the masses. He traced this proliferation of jokes to his faithful portrayal of roles in the movies as a jeepney driver, farmer, and vendor.

Criticized by some sectors for womanizing—a factor which has destroyed the political careers of some officials in the U.S. and Japan—Estrada said that his relationships are a "thing of the past." His kissing scenes with leading ladies in the movies for which he was paid for are the envy of even the highest paid executives, he said.

Unlike former First Lady Imelda Marcos' involvement in government activities, he said his wife would be relegated to socials, ribbon-cutting ceremonies, and activities related to calamities. He also vowed not to put relatives in government.

To reach his goal of being president, he said he would need the help of his friend, actor Fernando Poe Jr. to be his campaign manager as he has done during previous campaigns. He may use the movies as a medium for his campaign, playing his own role and getting his son Jinggoy to play the young Erap but he was mum when asked who would play his love interests and whether the movie would be unabridged and unedited.

Estrada, who turns 54 on April 19 said he would shun the movies during his presidency for lack of time and thereafter because he would not want to play grandfather roles. The presidency would be a "bigger stage...a true to life...the biggest performance of my life."

New People's Army Leader Arrested in Palawan*HK0804050491 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 8 Apr 91 pp 1, 24*

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Puerto Princesa, Palawan—A leader of the New People's Army (NPA) previously operating in Negros Occidental was captured by operatives of the 264th Philippine National Police (PNP) while organizing an underground movement in Southern Palawan.

The suspect was identified as Nelson Habagat Dupo, alias Kumander [Commander] Jackie and Ka [Comrade] Richard. He was believed to have been involved in the massacre of five members of the defunct Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF) in barangay Mandu-aw, Bayawan town, Negros Occidental.

Provincial superintendent Nestorio Gualberto reported to Region 4 Chief Superintendent Evaristo Carino that Dupo was arrested recently after a month-long surveillance in barangay Punta Baja, Rizal town, while conducting a seminar among rebels. Gualberto said the NPA rebel has a warrant of arrest for multiple murder before the regional trial court in Dumaguete City. He left his wife and family to go into hiding.

The police authorities said that according to reports they received, Dupo was recruited into the underground movement by a "religious group" from Palawan. He was later appointed as finance officer of the NPA Negros Occidental chapter.

Carino ordered Gualberto to coordinate with Region 7 Chief Superintendent Triumfo Agustin in Cebu as regards the status of Dupo's case. He also directed the provincial chief to investigate the religious group in Palawan that reportedly recruited the NPA rebel.

Meanwhile, Col. Argenio Esguerra, Wescom [Western Command] chief of staff, and Gualberto informed the PPOC [expansion unknown] that aside from Dupo, the military in Palawan also arrested Efren Rodrigo, chief of the new NPA unit, "Bagong Brigada ng Barangay [New Barangay Brigade]" in the island of Agutaya.

Further, a certain Joselito Alisuag, lawyer of the Haribon International and earlier arrested for violation of the Anti-Subversion Act (RA [Republic Act] 1700) filed a bail bond of P [Philippine pesos] 2,000 for his temporary release. His colleague, journalist Rita Villadiego, who not able to file a bond. Alisuag and Villadiego were ordered arrested by acting Puerto Princesa Municipal Trial Court Judge Lydia E. Abiog-Pe.

Three CPP-NPA Officials Captured in Agusan*HK0804050091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 8 Apr 91 p 24*

[By Mike Crismundo]

[Text] Talacogon, Agusan del Sur—Three officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) Central Visayas commission who turned to banditry were captured yesterday by elements of the Agusan del Sur Philippine National Police (PNP).

In a report to Region 10, PNP Director Arman Agbayani, Provincial Superintendent Acmar Omar identified the captives as Cornelio Paanon, alias Kumander [Commander] Dimas; Buenaventura Paanod, alias Ka [Comrade] Ben; and Samuet Paanod, alias Ka Amel, all former men of Luciano Hamil, NPA Central visayas command chief. Omar said they were captured in their mountain hideout at sitio Batucan, barangay Del Monte, this town, after a month-long surveillance.

The Paanods were tagged by the military as the masterminds in the massacre of a whole family in Balilihan town, Bohol, last year and allegedly responsible for the series of ambushes of military personnel in Central Visayas, the provincial chief said.

The Paanods fled from Bohol when warrants of arrest were issued against them and went to Agusan del Sur where they organized a crime syndicate engaged in holdup and robbery. Omar said that the three were also known as guns-for-hire. They are now facing charges of multiple and frustrated murder, holdup, robberies and subversion. The Paanods are temporarily detained at provincial PNP headquarters in Prosperidad town for further investigation.

In Butuan City, two persons, including a two-year old girl, were killed and several other were reported wounded when some 80 heavily armed NPA rebels attacked the Civilian Armed Forces Government Unit (CAFGU) detachment in barangays Maliwanag and Tagbalili, both of Esperanza town. An army report said yesterday that after the NPA rebels carted away several service firearms of the CAFGU members. The civilian volunteers were preparing for breakfast when the NPAs, believed to belong to the group of Martin Marco Nabungahan, swooped down on the camp. The rebels were armed with M-16 and M-14 rifles, grenades and M-203 launchers.

Barangay folk told the military that the NPAs also conducted a house to house search looking for firearms before withdrawing to the mountains bounding Agusan del Sur and Bukidnon provinces. Brig. Gen. Renato Garcia, 41st Infantry Brigade commander, and Omar dispatched their men to Esperanza to pursue the rebels.

Ex-NPA Chief Urges Rebels To Lay Down Arms*HK0804074591 Quezon City MALAYA in English
8 Apr 91 p 2*

[By Carlito Pablo]

[Text] Former New People's Army chief Bernabe Buscayno, popularly known as Kumander [Commander] Dante, has urged leftist rebels to lay down their arms and, instead, help stabilize the economy.

In an interview over the weekend, Buscayno said the armed struggle should take a backseat to "economic struggles," which he claimed could eventually lead to political changes. "The armed struggle is no longer advisable," he said.

Buscayno said the government efforts in implementing the agrarian reform program and its "relative openness" to divergent political ideas should encourage his former colleagues to stop the armed struggle. "Hindi na ganoon kafi ang class antagonism. [Class antagonism is no longer that fierce] Small farmers, for one, are now becoming small capitalists," he added.

Buscayno cited the farmers cooperative he initiated in Tarlac as a possible answer to rebels' call for more equitable distribution of wealth between the rich and the poor. The government has cited this cooperative, which has received substantial support from government financing agencies like the Lank Bank of the Philippines, as a model of its rice production program, which is currently being implemented in 24 priority provinces covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Buscayno also said the arrests of top ranking rebel leaders and losses in the battlefields will not weaken the rebel movement, which he said will not be crushed as long as they enjoy the support of the populace. "The question is how long will they continue to get support from the people," he said.

Buscayno said the insurgency movement has failed to make significant strides in expanding its armed guerrilla groups because "the people are less enthusiastic in further supporting the armed struggle." He described as "exaggerated" the rebels' claim that there are 25,000 fully armed NPA fighters. "Kung 7,000 maniniwala pa ako," [If the number is 7,000 I will still believe] the former NPA chief said.

Buscayno likewise criticized the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] as being "too optimistic" in its claim that the leftist insurgency could be completely crushed by 1992. "Hindi pa ganoon ganap nalulunasan ang kahirapan. [Poverty is not yet completely eradicated.] This will serve as reason for other people to take up arms against the government," he said.

NPA Denies Suffering 'Major Setbacks'

HK0904062791 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 29 Mar 91 pp 1, 7

[By Victor Vega]

[Text] The New People's Army (NPA), the military arm of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), claimed yesterday that it has established more than 100 guerrilla fronts in Luzon and gained supporters in other parts of the country.

In broadcasts aired over three NPA radio frequencies, the communist army denied that it has suffered major setbacks as reported by the "reactionary army" of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on the eve of the 22nd anniversary of the NPA yesterday. They admitted only minor setbacks. They also said the leadership of the communist movement was in crisis after several top cadres of the CPP were captured in recent operations by the military.

The NPA was regrouped in 1969 in Tarlac by Bernabe Buscayno, known as Commander Dante, on Good Friday which this year falls today, March 29. Buscayno has since become a pillar of the cooperative movement in the country.

Rebels To Increase Activities in Davao Provinces

HK0904052591 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 29 Mar 91 p 4

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Communist guerrillas were reportedly reviving their insurgency "laboratory areas" in the Davao provinces as the military had observed an unusual upsurge of rebel activities in some parts of the country.

A senior Armed Forces official told the CHRONICLE that the New People's Army [NPA] was reactivating its laboratory areas in southern Mindanao to test the effectiveness of its new politico-military strategy. This strategy was a modified version of the Sandinistas' guerrilla warfare which toppled the Somoza regime in Nicaragua in 1979.

Part of the plan, the senior military official said, was to reactivate the rebels' Edilberto Django Canoy Brigade which had mapped out a three-month program of action which would start today, the 22nd anniversary of the NPA in Central Luzon.

Captured documents confirmed rebel plans to step up armed and political activities in Davao City and in Davao del Sur areas by testing the politico-military strategy following a regional plenum last Feb. 18 in Digos.

In a separate interview, Brig. Gen. Alfredo Filler, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff for intelligence (J-2), admitted that there was a rise in rebel activities during the first two months this year compared to the last two months in 1990.

The military's theory that the guerrillas were reviving Davao as their model for guerrilla warfare was bolstered during a review of counter-insurgency situations in Camp Aguinaldo by Brig. Gen. Alfredo Filler, the AFP chief of staff for intelligence (J-2).

Filler said military-initiated tactical operations went down by two percent, while guerrilla initiated tactical

activities increased by 6%. Rebel activities like robberies went up by 23% compared to figures in November and December last year.

Filler cited the lack of soldiers in non-priority guerrilla fronts, where the rebels have shifted their offensives and the changes in the structure of the military and police with the organization of the PNP [Philippine National Police].

Army Troops Besiege Muslim Rebel Kidnappers

HK0604090091 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Apr 91

[Text] In Cotabato City, Army troops surrounded and attacked the stronghold of a Cotabato kidnap syndicate which was located 5 kilometers from Barangay Sambulawan, Midsayap, North Cotabato.

Up to last night, the clash continued between the 603d Infantry Brigade troops and kidnappers, most of whom are Muslim rebels. The brigade soldiers headed by Major Rogelio Bendijo were instructed to attack at the end part of Sambulawan, while other troops from the other units of the military blockaded the possible escape routes of the kidnap gang.

According to the report, the place was thoroughly besieged by the military although there has been no report yet as to how many were trapped inside. The report did not mention where the kidnappers were keeping the French priest, Father Yves Caroff.

Thailand

Anan on Lifting of Martial Law in 'Near Future'

BK0904091591 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Reports on attempts to explode the Pokklao Bridge this morning are only rumors, while on the problem of forest destruction, the government is trying to find every possible preventive measure. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun told reporters before presiding over a Cabinet meeting this morning.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, have you been informed of the explosion at the Pokklao Bridge this morning?

[Anan] No, I have not yet been informed.

[Reporter] Just a moment ago, I asked the interior minister about suppression of war weapons. He said it is up to the government's discretion and instruction as to what measures to take. While there have been incidents that may create a negative image for the government, what should the government tell the ministry to do and how should they do it?

[Anan] The initial responsibility lies with the Interior Ministry. I think all the Thai people are concerned about

this matter. Therefore, the government must try to find some measures and assign the Interior Ministry to proceed.

[Reporter] According to reports you have received, have there been any group with interests at stake that are trying to create trouble?

[Anan] I do not know about this.

[Reporter] Many forest destruction activities have still continued, while the government has made unsuccessful attempts to suppress them. What policy do you have to deal further with this problem?

[Anan] The same as many other issues, efforts have been made but have proved unsuccessful. Tree felling, which has been a problem for a long time, needs to be dealt with further. It requires not only suppression but other measures as well.

[Reporter] Do you think the problems are meant to challenge the government?

[Anan] No, I do not think so.

[Reporter] Sir, while the government has good intentions in trying to lift martial law, various incidents have occurred. Will this prolong the period before martial law is lifted?

[Anan] It is expected to be lifted in the near future. [end recording]

Sunthon Announces Crackdown on 'War Weapons'

BK0904015391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 91 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] National Peace-keeping Council Chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphon has warned all provincial governors to crack down on war weapons in their provinces. If they don't they risk disciplinary action.

The warning was given through Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunphakdi at a meeting yesterday of 72 provincial governors at the Interior Ministry. Since the military coup on February 23 serious crimes involving war weapons has not decreased.

Gen Itsaraphong said yesterday he has a policy to take drastic measures to get rid of war weapons. Such weapons were reportedly used widely by gunmen, most recently in the murder of boxing tycoon Klao Thanikun and his driver-bodyguard on April 5.

But Gen Itsaraphong declined to elaborate if the drastic measures would include using Article 27 under the Interim Constitution. He said it was not the time to make them public. He said he would discuss the measures during an Interior Ministry meeting and forward them to Cabinet.

On Mr Klao's murder, Gen Itsaraphong said he regarded it as a "trifle." There were many more important problems in the country, he said. He said Police Chief Gen Sawat

Amonwiwat had reported to him that Mr Klao had many enemies and it would be difficult for the police to clear the case within a short time. Conflicts over gambling or boxing might have led to the killing, he said. [passage omitted]

Paper on Response to Constitutional Drafting Body

BK0704015491 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
7 Apr 91 p 2

["Weekend Analysis" by Nattaya Chetchotirot]

[Text] Last week's meeting of the National Legislative Assembly (NLA) and the manner in which the constitutional drafting committee was proposed and "elected" has drawn somewhat negative response, further raising questions and concern over how the country's new constitution will turn out.

With the military making up about half of the 292-member NLA, there appears to be no doubt that throughout this year, the deliberations within the assembly will be lack-lustre compared to the previous Parliament. More importantly, however, debate and the level of argument cannot be expected to be as varied as a Parliament where members come from more varied backgrounds and political thinking.

Former Prachakon Thai MP [member of parliament], Yenchit Raphiphat—a well-known critic of the military—said that judging from appearances, the inaugural meeting of the NLA was more dictatorial than previous parliaments. She said that the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] had cited as a reason for seizing power the "growing parliamentary dictatorship" and the lack of quality among MPs.

But judging from their first appearance, Mrs Yenchit said she cannot see how those represented in the NLA are any better than the former members. She said for instance that the NLA comprised primarily wealthy individuals and the military who are known to be the most disciplined of all peoples. She noted that these individuals failed to comment or debate on the interim government's policy statement, leaving the "old faces" to speak out, adding that even those who spoke lacked depth in their comments.

Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchupan countered, however, by saying he felt they spoke "with reason," although he admitted that the debate was probably not as hot and torrid as that people are used to. But the deputy prime minister said that in debating crucial issues, it is not necessary to spend a lot of time. Crucial points can be made in a matter of minutes, he said.

Dr Tinnaphan Nakata, a researcher of the Thailand Development Research Institute and former army officer and classmate of Army Chief Gen Suchina Khrapayun, goes one step further. Dr Tinnaphan, who is a member of the constitutional drafting committee, said that the current assembly is a good one, almost as good as the National Assembly of 1974 which Dr Suchit

Bunbongkan of Chulalongkon University described as the best the country has ever had. Although it appeared that NLA proceedings were stage-managed, Dr Tinnaphan said this was not different to past parliaments. Even in the last government, he said, proceedings were planned by the political parties with a designated person to propose a motion and a seconder.

With such a high proportion of military officers in the NLA, the public perception of the assembly is already perhaps set and appears unlikely to change. Much will depend on its performance in the months to come. But perhaps it is still too early to judge the constitutional drafting committee in the same light although Mrs Yenchit feels that the proportion of "independent-minded" members of the committee is small.

"The proportion of independent-minded members is small and they will not be able to counter the non-democratic element in the committee," she said citing Dr Suchit, Thammasat University's rector Koekkiat Phiphatseritham and Likhit Thirawekhin and Wisanu Khrua-ngam as among the independents. She also said more qualified former MPs could have been chosen. She noted that Sawat Khamprakop was too old to be able to understand the rapid changes in Thai society while Suwat Lipataphanlop lacks experience or legal knowledge and expertise.

While a number of members who have questions hanging over them as far as qualifications and experience is concerned, in general, the committee members are qualified. Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan believes that despite current reservations, the 20 members are independent thinkers. Mr Michai said he does not know what guidelines were used in the selection of the committee and did not know the reason why more obvious choices, such as Chuan Likphai or Surin Phitsuwan, were not chosen to the committee. He also accepted that present working conditions were rushed but added that the committee would welcome ideas and suggestions from former MPs and academics such as Mr Chuan and Chulalongkon University lecturer Dr Phongphen Sakuntaphai. Mr Michai argued that the committee is not made up of persons who can be ordered around by the NPKC.

Rector Koekkiat admits that being appointed to the committee does not help his public image. "I said from the beginning that the result of this task is either break even or lose. Anyone appointed under current circumstances—even with a good image—will be criticised and seen in a negative light," he said. Rector Koekkiat said, however, that he was not approached by the military "but a person he trusts." He added that it is his understanding that committee members will be able to work freely.

The academic is confident that the members will be able to do this, but added that if he detects interference, he will resign immediately. Rector Koekkiat admits feeling sad that more recognised individuals were not included in the committee. The rector believes that the committee's main task is how to achieve a separation of powers.

and determine the role of government officials, the qualification of candidates, the method of election, the origin and proportion of the senate.

Editorial on Need for Constructive NLA Role

*BK0504052791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
5 Apr 91 p 4*

[Editorial: "NLA [National Legislative Assembly] Must Do More Than Simply Say 'Yes'"]

[Text] A crucial role of Parliament in a democratic society anywhere is to act as a check-and-balance mechanism of the executive branch. To fulfil such a role, it is essential that members of Parliament be free and willing to speak their minds in a constructive manner without fear of any reprisals, even if their viewpoints differ from those of the ruling government. But what transpired at yesterday's session of the Parliament during the debate on the Government's policy statement could hardly be termed an effective exercise of the check-and-balance mechanism by the 292-member National Legislative Assembly [NLA].

Despite the lengthy policy statement which covers a wide range of crucial areas that the Government intends to look into and deal with during its short tenure in office, the Assembly took barely two hours to debate the matter before approving it. Less than 10 members of the Assembly took to the floor to air their views. These views were only notable for the degree of restraint exercised in any criticism of the Government. Out of this handful of speakers, none were from the military bloc which constitutes half of the Assembly.

One assemblyman, former Prachakon Thai MP [member of parliament] Prakit Phatthanakun, learned the hard way that controversy was not encouraged. Although he raised his hand many times he was overlooked by the president of the Parliament and failed to gain a chance to speak. It is difficult to regard yesterday's exchange as a debate in the true sense of the word because of the lack of arguments on opposing sides. To paraphrase yesterday's comment by assemblyman Kasem Chatikawanit, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's Cabinet may be a "dream government" that one need not worry about. Nevertheless, even a government headed by a prime minister whose integrity is beyond question is not necessarily one with a policy so totally flawless that it should be accepted as a fait accompli.

Given the vital importance of the policy statement which dictates the direction in which the country is heading, the NLA would be doing the country and the public a big service by giving the policy statement close scrutiny. Compared to the time-consuming and excessive rhetoric which characterised the previous elected Parliament, one might argue that the quick passage of the policy statement as witnessed in yesterday's parliamentary debate would permit the government to move ahead to undertake other important tasks. However, this argument is beside the point. The issue of greatest importance is whether the NLA has faithfully fulfilled its task "to check and balance" the authority of the Government. Although non-elected and

with a limited term, the National Legislative Assembly must always bear in mind that it is duty-bound to first serve the public they are supposed to represent. This is the professed objective of both the caretaker government and the National Peacekeeping Council.

Several crucial tasks and bills are awaiting the scrutiny of the National Legislative Assembly. The most important of all seems to be the permanent Constitution which is yet to be drafted by a 20-member committee appointed yesterday. The importance of the Constitution does not need further emphasising. Given the radical political changes which are to be introduced into the new charter by the military, particularly the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branches which will shape the future political landscape of the country, it is all the more important that members of the National Legislative Assembly participate more actively and responsibly in their deliberations of the draft Constitution, bearing in mind the democratic aspirations of the people.

Since its appointment, the National Legislative Assembly has earned the unenviable reputation of being a "rubber stamp" Parliament. The Assembly should erase this negative image by listening to and answering the voice of the people.

NPKC-Targetted 'Godfather' Killed by Gunmen

*BK0604021391 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Apr 91 pp A1, A2*

[Text] Well-known boxing promoter Khlaeo Thanikun and a bodyguard were killed by gunmen armed with assault rifles after a wild car chase on the Buddha Monthon 6 road in Nakhon Pathom yesterday evening.

At least 12 others, including five policemen, were injured, two of them seriously, when a hand grenade near Khlaeo's bullet-riddled station wagon exploded after the attack, police reported. It was not clear whether the grenade belonged to Khlaeo's bodyguard or the gunmen.

Khlaeo, 57, president of the Amateur Boxing Association of Thailand, had just attended the opening day of the King's Cup Amateur Boxing Championship and was heading to Samut Songkhram to oversee final arrangements for tomorrow's title defence of Khaosai Galaxy, junior bantamweight champion of the World Boxing Association, when the assault took place at around 6.30 pm in Sampran district.

Witnesses said at least two gunmen riding on a red pick-up truck chased the Black Nissan station wagon on Phuttha Monthon 6 Road. The gunmen, whom police said were armed with M-16 and AK-47 assault rifles, opened fire when the two vehicles were in front of a roadside restaurant, where startled customers rushed out to witness the attack. The attackers continued firing when Khlaeo's vehicle came to a halt on the roadside. They fled in their pick-up truck.

When policemen and charity workers of the Po Tek Tung Foundation approached Khlaeo's car, a hand grenade went off, police said. A policeman and a rescuer were seriously wounded. Four more policemen and six other people were also injured. Reports that the seriously-injured policeman died at the Nakhon Pathom hospital could not be immediately confirmed. Empty M-16 and AK-47 cartridges were strewn about the scene.

Police found in the station wagon the bodies of Khlaeo and his bodyguard, who was identified as Sakonyut Thongsaiaphan. An 11-mm pistol was found on Sakonyut's body. Police said Sakonyut was known as a "100-body gunman" and one of Khlaeo's most trusted bodyguards. Police reported there was another unidentified passenger in the station wagon who was injured and hospitalized.

Khlaeo, one of Thailand's most influential tycoons who was linked with underworld activities, had survived two previous attempts on his life. In 1982 four people were killed and more than 30 others injured when two hand grenades were lobbed inside the crowded Lumpini Boxing Stadium where Khlaeo was watching a major bout. Two years earlier an attacker threw a hand grenade at Khlaeo's car in front of the Ratdamnoen Boxing Stadium. Khlaeo survived unscathed, but a policeman was killed and more than 10 other people were injured.

Khlaeo and six of his bodyguards including Sakonyut, were arrested by Phayathai district police in August last year after his men were found carrying weapons. Police said the tycoon and the bodyguards were on their way to force a gambler to repay a Bt [baht] 4 million gambling debt, and that the arrest had preempted possible bloodshed. The promoter was later released on bail. Khlaeo was on the list of seven "godfathers" whose assets were being checked at the order of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC].

Born in Samut Songkhram, Khlaeo became involved in the boxing business when he was only a teenager. According to police, Khlaeo soon became a member of gambling circles in the Yaowarat area of Chainat town. He became a "godfather" following the death of his boss Lo Hua Samkok, then Bangkok's No.1 chao pho [godfather], and the murder of another underworld figure Lao Tahi, then known to be competing with Khlaeo to become Lo's successor.

Some influential underworld figures reportedly rose to challenge Khlaeo's influence. They included Thanaphon Chawalit, alias Ti Pamuk, who was gunned down in Bang Na area in 1987, and Chaiwat Phatangwatthanakit, alias Ngow Haphalang, who was killed in a shooting at the Lumpini Stadium three years ago. Police arrested Si Tie Khlaeo's right-hand man, in connection with the murders of Thanaphon and Chaiwat.

In a recent press interview, Khlaeo said he was not worried about the investigation of his assets. "I am not worried because I don't have that much money or property to be checked," he said. "All I have are three sedan cars, a house under construction off Sukhumvit

Road, and a 100 rai plot of land which I mortgaged in return for a loan of Bt32 million. I don't keep cash in commercial banks because I am in the habit of immediately spending all the money I earn."

Khlaeo's body was brought to the Police Department's Institute of Forensic Medicine last night. There were four bullet holes in his back, which also was badly cut by shrapnel. His wife Kemmaphon, who is eight months pregnant, came to identify the body at the institute. "He did not tell me whether he was having serious problems with anybody," the tearful woman said.

Killers To Face Martial Law Powers

BK0704013991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
7 Apr 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] Article 27, which gives the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] absolute power, will be invoked against the killers of Amateur Boxing Association President Khlaeo Thanikun and his bodyguard, NPKC Chairman Sunthon Kongsomphong said yesterday.

"I have already ordered police to investigate to find the persons responsible for the killing. Any persons found responsible for the killing will face severe punishment because the crime was committed while martial law was in force," Gen Sunthon said. He said that it would be necessary for him to invoke Article 27 of the constitution to deal with the case since the killing has seriously shaken public morale.

Article 27 gives summary power to the NPKC chairman and/or the Prime Minister to order any action over incidents considered to undermine national security and public welfare. Gen Sunthon said he would invoke Article 27 against persons responsible for rape-murders, arson, drug trafficking and premeditated murders.

Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunpakhdi said yesterday Assistant Police Chief Lt-Gen Sanan Tuchinda had been appointed to handle the investigation of the murders of Khlaeo and his driver-bodyguard in Nakhon Pathom on Friday night. The Interior Minister said he was sorry for what had happened. He also expressed sympathy for four policemen and a Po Tek Tung Foundation worker who were wounded in a grenade explosion while examining the van in which Mr Khlaeo was travelling.

Gen Itsaraphong said he would see to it that their families are taken care of. He declined to reply when asked what he thought was a possible motive for the killing, saying only that Mr Khlaeo had been involved in a number of criminal cases in the past. Gen Itsaraphong said he expected to receive a full report on the case from the Police Department tomorrow.

Asked if the Government would resort to exercising Article 27 of the Interim Constitution to suppress serious crimes, Gen Itsaraphong said it was the NPKC chairman and the Prime Minister who were empowered to invoke the article. However, he said use of Article 27 requires much deliberation for the sake of justice and morality.

Police Chief Sawat Amonwiwat said he had been assigned by the National Peace-keeping Council to investigate the killings. He said many factors must be taken into consideration, such as whether or not Mr Khlaeo had enemies or conflicts of interest.

Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun declined to comment on the incident, saying only that it was the police, not the NPKC, that had the responsibility to investigate. Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon said any questions on the murder should be raised with the Police Chief. However, Gen Sunthon, Gen Itsaraphong, Gen Suchinda and Pol Gen Sawat were seen discussing this matter seriously while attending a ceremony to commemorate Chakkri Day at the Army sports stadium yesterday.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, speaking to reporters while inspecting the weekend market at Chatuchak Park, said the Interior Ministry and police were directly responsible for the case.

Khlaeo and his driver-bodyguard were gunned down in a hail of bullets by an unknown number of gunmen armed with assault rifles while travelling on the Pin Klao-Nakhon Chairsi Road in Sam Phran District, Nakhon Pathom. Sam Phran police chief Manoj Choradon said the Interior Minister and the Police Chief were promptly informed of the incident on Friday night. First Region Provincial Police deputy commissioner Maj-Gen Khet Nimsombun and Pol Col Narong Ruangdej, deputy commander of the Provincial Police Zone 3 came to supervise the investigation.

The Sam Phran police chief said that so far, police have questioned eight witnesses and concluded that at least two hooded gunmen attacked the two victims from an open dark-coloured pickup truck. Police believe that Khlaeo had been followed from Bangkok by the gunmen who opened fire at his vehicle when it reached a quiet area. He said police initially believed that vengeance was the prime motive of the murder. However, they did not rule out possible conflicts over women as another motive.

The officer said the gunmen were armed with AK47 and M16 assault rifles and one of them lobbed an M26 hand grenade at Khlaeo's station wagon during the attack. He said police ballistic experts would thoroughly inspect Khlaeo's bullet-riddled vehicle at the police station tomorrow.

Nakhon Pathom provincial police chief Col Surat Yuthayothin and a police team went to the killing scene again yesterday morning to look for more clues.

They discovered two more spent M16 and AK47 cartridges. Mourning relatives yesterday performed bathing rites for Khlaeo's body at his home off Soi Sukhumvit 93. The body had been taken to the Police Institute of Forensic Medicine for an autopsy on Friday night and was handed to his relatives yesterday afternoon.

Khlaeo's wife, Kemaphon, said she did not know what was the possible motive for her husband's murder. She

admitted that Khlaeo had gambling debts but said he had mortgaged his orange plantation and land in Nonthaburi Province for 32 million baht to write off the debts.

Union To Send Bush Letter on Labor Relations Act

BK0604115391 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 4 Apr 91 p 2

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Speaking to reporters, Saman Phromkhun, president of the Communications Authority of Thailand Workers Union, on 3 April said his union will submit a letter to U.S. President George Bush through the U.S. labor attache, and to the International Labor Organization and a communications federation. The letter to be sent to the U.S. President was shown to reporters. It says that the National Peacekeeping Assembly is using totalitarian power to influence the government to enact a law to exclude some 300,000 state enterprise workers from the Labor Relations Act in order to dissolve their unions. Such an action contradicts democratic principles because it deprives workers of their basic rights and constitutes violation of human rights.

The letter also notes that the state enterprise workers unions' had opposed the action but that this opposition did not seem to bear fruit. Under the current martial law, workers in Thailand are being deprived of their basic rights to unite in expressing their opinions. The U.S. President will be asked to inform the government of Thailand, as a UN member country, to strictly abide by the declaration of human rights.

Paper Examines Japanese 'Initiative' on Cambodia

BK0504053991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Apr 91 p 5

[By Phichai Chunsuksawat and Suphaphon Kan-wirayothin]

[Text] Despite a generally lukewarm response from respective Cambodian factions and international players involved in seeking a solution to the conflict, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama flies from Tokyo to Peking today to push ahead with what has been described as the Japanese initiative on Cambodia.

The initiative, which the Japanese prefer to call "an idea," is the second major effort by Tokyo to play a key role in the resolution of the Cambodian conflict since the Tokyo talks last year. But since the "idea" was raised with Cambodian leaders during a meeting in Peking with top Japanese diplomats on March 14, critics have said the move would divert attention from the United Nations permanent five members' (Security Council) arrangements formulated in November last year.

The Japanese contend that this is not the case at all. In fact, their move is "supportive" of the "Perm Five" agreement and aims to act as a "bridge" to overcome current differences separating the Cambodian resistance and the Phnom Penh regime. But perhaps the most

important question is whether Japan will be successful in this exercise, particularly when it wants Cambodia to be the first major test case of a new and active diplomacy and new political role as peacemaker in the region.

Minister Tadashi Ikeda of the Japanese Embassy here described the "Japanese idea" as having two prime objectives. First, to provide "momentum" to the Cambodian peace process, prompted by fears that unless momentum is maintained, the war-torn country would turn into another Lebanon or Afghanistan. He reaffirmed that Japan is "supportive" of the Perm Five documents but noted that "in the process of the formulation of the agreements, the permanent five members of the Security Council met several times but did not talk with the Cambodians."

"The documents are well formulated but it is like a cake that looks nice but the Cambodians don't know how to approach it. Some minimum explanatory note is helpful," he told the BANGKOK POST.

The explanatory note appears to centre on two areas: disarmament and the issue concerning the non-return to power of the dreaded Khmer Rouge. In the Japanese "non-paper," these crucial points are outlined as follows:

- "All forces shall fully respect successive phases of regrouping, cantonment, disarmament and demobilisation in accordance with the procedure as provided in the draft peace agreement.
- "The second phase, i.e. phase of disarmament, shall never be initiated, however, unless the completion of the preceding phase is confirmed by UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia].
- "The disarmament process shall not take place until the destruction of caches of munitions has been verified by UNTAC.
- "Should obvious guerrilla activities repeatedly occur in spite of the arrangements above, the forces responsible for those activities shall not be allowed to return to civilian life during the transitional period. Moreover, in case the guerrilla activities are found systematically organised, the political party proved responsible for those activities shall be denied its party registration for the general election (and, accordingly, deprived of the right to participate in the election).
- "The parties concerned agreed on the organisation of a special committee composed of representatives of UNTAC, Supreme National Council and the United Nations Human Rights Committee soon after the attainment of a comprehensive political settlement in order to explore concrete measures to ensure the non-return of the policies and practices in the past."

But a Western diplomat said the Perm Five framework documents were already elaborated on in a note by the special envoy of the United Nations Secretary General Rafeudin Ahmed. The Japanese initiative "came out of the blue," then was shown around the resistance and to

Phnom Penh. "It was not done in a coordinated manner and this is the ASEAN complaint," the Western diplomat said. The diplomat added that the Japanese initiative simply took all existing elements and presented them in a different way and as a new plan. The diplomat also described the paragraph barring factions which continue guerrilla activities to be allowed to return to civilian life as "odd." The purpose of disarmament and demobilisation is to have the guerrillas return to civilian life, the diplomat said.

Also, the Japanese reference to barring violators from being allowed to register as a political party for election is a standard United Nations practice, citing the case of Namibia as an example.

The diplomat did not see the Japanese move as being a "bridge" but rather would have the effect or raise serious risks of "diverting attention from the main game," namely the Perm Five documents. "We do not want to see divergence from the framework and the November 26 text, which we deem workable. What we want to see is the Perm Five text taken, spelled out and worked on to narrow the outstanding differences."

The diplomat said Phnom Penh should be encouraged to spell out and concentrate on key issues that it differs from others and then put out a concrete proposal. "The bottom line, as I see it, is Japan wanting to deal itself in the process for its new political role in the region, beginning with Cambodia. And I suggest that they consult with the Paris International Conference on Cambodia fellow countries. Indonesia is not so impressed with this, and there has been no positive response to this proposal as far as I'm concerned. So the focus should be the next SNC meeting in Jakarta," the diplomat added.

Another Bangkok-based diplomat doubted whether resistance or the Phnom Penh regime would become serious about the Japanese initiative, though for different reasons. Although Mr Ikeda admitted that the Khmer Rouge response was "not so positive," he said that Prince Norodom Sihanouk and nationalist leader Son Sann "appreciate" the Japanese initiative but would like more time to study it. Apart from Chinese leader Li Peng and his counterpart Qian Qichen, Foreign Minister Nakayama is also scheduled to meet Prince Sihanouk while in Beijing. Mr Ikeda said he was uncertain of the exact reasons for reservations by the Khmer Rouge but agreed that concern centred on the issues of disarmament and the non-return of the Khmer Rouge.

Resistance sources said the Khmer Rouge made it clear to Prince Sihanouk even before the March 14 meeting that it would "not be flexible" to the Japanese plan. The Khmer Rouge, sources added, were apparently still smarting over the Japanese role in the failed Tokyo talks where it was blamed for stalling an agreement. The sources added that Prince Sihanouk himself had reservations about Japanese intentions while China as well believed that the move would divert attention away from the Perm Five plan.

"It has been said that the Japanese are inexperienced in diplomacy," said the Bangkok-based diplomat. "Almost all sides have reservations of the plan yet they insist on proceeding with it." The diplomat said he could not see the initiative moving forward simply because the Cambodians themselves disagreed with elements of the initiative.

For the resistance, the "ceasefire, cantonment and disarmament" was unfair and in favour of Phnom Penh because if they agreed there would be no necessity to get Phnom Penh to the negotiating table, the diplomat said. "The resistance wants to keep on fighting," he said. The diplomat believed that Phnom Penh had no intention of working towards a solution and had adopted a strategy of postponement for as long as possible.

The Western diplomat also said Phnom Penh was concerned about disarmament as well, saying that with its systematic army it would be able to disarm easily. But the Khmer Rouge, with its jungle cadre and hidden arms caches could upset the balance under a disarmament scenario. "The Japanese plan stands uncomfortably between the two," the diplomat said, adding that it conflicted with the thrust of the SNC and Paris International Conference on Cambodia. The diplomat said that at present, therefore, it seemed the Japanese plan was unlikely to get off the ground.

But perhaps the more crucial question is whether yet another diplomatic setback following from the Tokyo talks will blunt Japanese efforts and intentions to play a greater political role in this region.

Columnist Views Japan's Goal in Providing Aid

*BK3103025091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
31 Mar 91 p 4*

[*"Weekend Analysis"* column by Nusara Thaithawat]

[Text] Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Thailand is being strongly criticised as benefiting mostly Japanese business interests, with monumental projects and a total lack of human and environmental concerns.

Some critics have gone so far as to refer to Japan's ODA as "Official Destruction and Alienation," while supporters argue that Japan is doing its best since its help is provided on request. They say how the help is directed is the responsibility of the recipient country. Good or bad, Japan's ODA, which comprises concessionary loans, grants and technical help, now forms nearly 70 per cent of all international assistance to Thailand.

Japan is Thailand's biggest source of bilateral loans, provided through the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) and the Export-Import Bank of Japan (EXIM Bank), and is also Thailand's largest donor of grants and technical help, extended through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

An international conference on March 21 and 22, focusing on Japan's ODA and Asian Developing Economies, agreed that despite the criticism, it cannot be denied that Japan's ODA has contributed to the development of Thailand's basic infrastructure. It acknowledged, however, the services necessary for industrialisation were initially provided by the United States and the World Bank long before Japan began extending grants to Thailand in the 1950s.

The session was organised by Thammasat University's Institute of East Asian Studies. Thammasat's Dr Prani Thinakon and Dr Phatchari Sirorot, in fact, said that "owing to the high rates of growth Thailand has achieved, it is often cited as a successful external assistance recipient."

Professor Surichai Wun-gao, from Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Political Science, said they ignored many other factors which contributed to the high rates of growth. "It is not that simple," he said, adding if development covers not just growth but also better living, Japan's ODA does not look so impressive.

Dr Prani and Dr Phatchari said the ODA projects concentrate on Bangkok and surrounding areas, except for irrigation projects and other small projects, while the Northeast, which is known to be the country's poorest region, does not receive much attention. Contributions to a higher quality of human resources and more equitable distribution of income received less money than other areas, they said.

The long-standing question was raised again over whether or not development is the aim of Japan's ODA—or of any international assistance to Thailand. Professor Toru Yanagihara from Hosei University in Japan said that from Japan's perspective, the ODA has never been formulated on a grand design. The ODA started as war reparations, he said. Then it was used systematically as a means to promote exports before emerging as a development-oriented policy—"although it did not come into conflict with commercial interests of Japanese businesses."

Indeed, most criticism of the ODA to Thailand involves claims of quick benefits for Japan. From statistics compiled by Dr Prani and Dr Phatchari, it can be seen that concessionary yen loans form roughly 75 per cent of Japan's ODA to Thailand, while only about 25 per cent is in the form of grants or technical assistance, which do not have to be paid back.

Yen loans until now have concentrated on basic infrastructure (transport and communications, energy and power) while grants and technical help have gone towards agriculture, education, health, science and technology and community development. Although basic infrastructure is necessary for Thailand's industrialisation, it is also needed for expansion of Japanese business interests in this country.

The terms of loans from Japan, particularly from the OECF, are more attractive than most other sources, roughly at 2.7 per cent interest with a maturity period of 30 years and a grace period of 10 years. But Professor Suphot Chunanuntatham from Thammasat's Faculty of Economics said that because of procurement conditions and the steady appreciation of the yen, Thailand ends up being able to use only 25 per cent of what it borrows, especially when this country's income is in US dollars while loans must be repaid in yen.

Yoichi Aki, the OECF's chief representative in Thailand, said procurement conditions—that the contractor, equipment, materials must all be Japanese for all projects funded by yen loans—had become less stringent. "Since Japan's ODA works on a request basis, it means the recipient country or government accepts projects prepared by Japanese companies preparing the loans.

"It could be some recipient countries do not have the ability to formulate projects. But with Thailand, the projects are carried out by the Thai Government and I don't think Japanese companies present the Thai Government with projects. It does not happen," he said.

Mr Aki said the relationship between the Japanese Government and Japanese businesses was no longer so close, with fewer benefits for Japanese businesses. He illustrated his argument with statistics showing that the share Japanese companies held of all projects worldwide, funded by yen loans, had declined from a high of 67 percent in 1986 to 55 percent in 1987, 43 percent in 1988 and 38 percent in 1989. "The motive for the ODA is cooperation with self-help in working together for economic and social development," Mr Aki said.

Professor Yanagihara, while saying Japan's ODA lacks a philosophy and no doubt was designed to promote Japanese business, said recent development of the Asia-Pacific region has helped Tokyo better formulate its assistance in the following ways:

- The ODA might be used to strengthen productive capabilities and increase interaction within the region;
- It could tackle problems generated by economic development, such as environmental deterioration;
- It could be directed to aspects of socio-economic life which do not benefit from economic growth, such as poverty and regional disparities;
- For countries which face serious macro-economic problems, the ODA could take the form of quick help on fiscal matters.

This view of Japan's new direction may seem a little too rosy as past performance has already created mistrust among recipient countries. But Professor Yanagihara said: "So what if Japanese companies undertake projects funded by yen loans? So what if there is too much

infrastructure? Why make a big fuss about no technology transfer when recipient countries are not ready to receive this?"

Good or bad, Japan and Thailand are suffering from what Professor Surichai referred to as the donor and recipient syndrome. "Japan thinks it has already given assistance and it is the recipient country's responsibility if it fails, while Thailand, as a recipient, thinks it does not have much control over the direction of assistance and thinks only on the pragmatic level," he said. "The key to discussing ODA is not who is to blame. It is not that clear cut whether or not the donor or recipient is to be blamed or to take responsibility."

What Thailand really needs to do is reassess what it has gained from Japan's ODA and whether or not it wants to continue to receive it. For the Japanese, it may be time their help to the international community is treated not as yet another business opportunity for Japanese companies but as assistance as such.

Professor Yanagihara said the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] had proposed that Japan's ODA be used as strategic aid to help support the development of democracy and maintain international peace. He said this decision was taken hastily during international pressure at the time of the Gulf crisis. The February 23 military takeover in Thailand, military rule in Rangoon, and the military suppression of democracy in China, however, indicated Japan could not move along the lines of the LDP proposal.

Japan has resumed aid to China, now the number three recipient in Asia, and also continues ODA projects in Burma. As for Thailand, Tokyo appeared to have had a difficult time deciding what to do after February 23. A decision to "delay" aid was finally reached more than two weeks after the coup. Professor Yanagihara said it was difficult. "If it conflicts with Japanese business interests, the LDP will probably drop the proposal quietly."

Since it appears Thailand cannot expect changes from Japan, it needs to reassess what it needs and make stronger demands to have a bigger say and bigger share in the implementation of the ODA.

Vietnam

State Planning Official on Trip to Malaysia

BK0904032291 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] A delegation of the Vietnamese State Planning Committee led by its vice chairman, Mai Ky, paid a visit to Malaysia recently. In an interview with our radio correspondent on the result of the visit, Mr. Mai Ky said:

[Begin recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] Following the official visit to Malaysia by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet

early this year, we came to Malaysia this time to discuss the relations between the two countries and our cooperation in oil and gas industry. The two sides have promoted their bilateral relations so they can officially sign an agreement on Malaysia's participation in surveying and exploiting oil in the two oil areas in the southern continental shelf. This document has been initialed and it will be officially concluded in the near future. [end recording]

Mr Mai Ky said that Malaysia wants to take part in the development of oil and gas industry in Vietnam. Malaysia agreed to provide Vietnam from 120,000 to 150,000 tons of oil in 1991 with priority conditions. Malaysia will help Vietnam in experiences in developing the oil industry, mineral sorting, and training our personnel. The two sides also agreed to cooperate in agriculture. Malaysia will provide Vietnam with fertilizer in exchange for rice. The two countries agreed to cooperate in growing rubber trees and oil palm trees. They also discussed their cooperation in airlines and commerce, and expressed their wishes for direct imports and exports. The two sides will accelerate their cooperation in banking, research, planning, and economic management through the planned market economy applied by Malaysia.

Speaking about prospects for future cooperation between Vietnam and Malaysia, Mr Mai Ky said: We think this prospect is fine, especially since the meeting between Vietnamese Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet and the Malaysian deputy prime minister. This time the Vietnamese delegation was received by the Malaysian foreign minister and deputy prime minister. Malaysia pays much concern to the problems raised by the Vietnamese side during their talks and wants agreements between the two countries to be implemented, the sooner the better. In the near future a Malaysian delegation will come to Vietnam to implement the agreed issues and there will be some concrete signings. We believe the tendency for developmental cooperation between Vietnam and Malaysia is fine. We hope this will be realized in the near future. Malaysia is the first country of ASEAN which opened a consulate office in Ho Chi Minh City. This marks an important development in the cooperation between the two countries.

The Malaysian prime minister said his country believes that many countries in Southeast Asia want to cooperate and assist Vietnam by all means to help Vietnam overcome the current stage of development.

Do Muoi, Vo Nguyen Giap Meet U.S. Senators

*BK0404141291 Hanoi VNA in English 1316 GMT
4 Apr 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 4—US senators John McCain and Phil Gramm of the Republican Party left here today for Ho Chi Minh City to continue a visit to Vietnam beginning April 2. The two senators were accompanied by deputy assistant secretary of state and others.

During their stay in Hanoi, they were received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi. They also met with General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The American guests held talks with Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister. The two sides compared notes on the relations between Vietnam and the United States, and the issues of common concern. They also visited some places of historical interest.

Award Given to U.S. Professor for Dioxin Studies

*BK0504074491 Hanoi VNA in English 0604 GMT
5 Apr 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5—Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho conferred here today the Friendship Order on American medical Professor John D. Constable for his contributions to promoting the friendship and cooperation between the scientists and people of Vietnam and the United States.

Prof. Constable, an expert in plastic surgery, has over the past 20 years had effective activities to help Vietnam in studying the damage of dioxine to the life environment in the country. He has also had substantial contributions to orthopaedics in Vietnam and helped his Vietnamese colleagues with their scientific studies and researches.

OPEC Fund for Development Delegation Visits

*BK0604151691 Hanoi VNA in English 1356 GMT
6 Apr 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 6—A high-level delegation of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development led by its Director-General Seyyid Abdulai [name as received] visited Vietnam from April 3-6.

This is the first time such a delegation came to Vietnam to discuss measures to enhance the cooperation between the fund and Vietnam. It had working sessions with the Vietnam State Bank, various ministries and other branches concerned to solve the debt issue and the fund's new loan to Vietnam.

The director-general and his party were cordially received on April 5 by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi. The director-general briefed the Vietnamese leader on the agreements between OPEC Fund and the Vietnam State Bank on solving the debt issue, as well as OPEC Fund's plan for financial assistance to Vietnam till the year 2000. He affirmed that OPEC Fund is ready to render Vietnam appropriate assistance in its foodstuff, cultural, educational and health projects.

Chairman Do Muoi welcomed the guests' visit as a fine manifestation of the OPEC-Vietnam relations. He expressed thanks to OPEC Fund for its financial assistance to Vietnam in the past years and his belief that the

cooperation between OPEC and Vietnam would be further strengthened in conformity with Vietnam's open-door policy and OPEC Fund's interests.

General Writes on Army Building Experiences

*BK2603094191 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG
TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Dec 90 pp 48-54*

[Article by Senior Lieutenant General Dang Vu Hiep: "Some Important Experiences in Building the People's Army During the Past Several Years"]

[Text] Implementing the party's renovation line, the military domain is undergoing changes just like other domains. Since our country's renovation process is clearly oriented and steadfast as a socialist orientation, renovation in the military domain must also be clearly oriented and steadfast along the viewpoints of all-peoples' national defense, the people's warfare, and building the People's Armed Forces.

On the basis of these orientations, renovation means to assert what is good and effective, to reject shortcomings and mistakes or what is no longer relevant nor creative, and to develop what is relevant to new realities.

For the past 15 years we have been in the new revolutionary stage of building and defending our socialist country and of fulfilling our international obligations at a time when the world and the regional situation has been going through complex changes and the socioeconomic situation in our country is rife with difficulties. During these 15 years, our Army has also been tested thoroughly by fierce ordeals. Although great victories have been scored, there were also many shortcomings and even mistakes at times.

In the coming years, our Army's responsibility will be very heavy. It must be built really firm and strong to be able to fulfill its duty. Looking back over the past 15 years, we would like to draw upon some major experiences as contributions to building the Army in future.

Among successes, shortcomings, and mistakes, the following five major issues can be seen:

1. In building the Army, we must firmly grasp the political development as a base for raising the integrated quality of combat strength. This is a thorough understanding of the class viewpoint, the viewpoint on the People's Armed Forces, and the viewpoint of considering the human and political factors as fundamental in the armed struggle.

Building the Army politically is a fundamental principle of the party for building the revolutionary armed forces, which aims to make our Army constantly a reliable political and combat force loyal to the party, the people, and the socialist country. Building the Army politically is in fact to build and develop its working class nature in conformity with the requirements of the political duty in the course of developing the class and national struggle.

The political quality of the Army is mainly manifested by the leading strength of the party organization, the level of awareness and political steadfastness of all troops, and the quality of each cadre and combatant, mainly cadres. This quality is a combined result of the ideological and organizational tasks and must be tested through the performance of political duties by troops under all circumstances of complex developments.

As a result, in building the Army politically, the issues of prime importance are to firmly and regularly grasp the development and consolidation of party leadership over the Army; to attentively raise the level of political knowledge and ability of troops, making them persist in the militant objectives and ideals chosen by the party, Uncle Ho, and the people so that they can have firm political and military viewpoints and high combat spirit; and to firmly grasp the human strategy, focusing on the building of a contingent of cadres—the core force—who are truly loyal, reliable, and politically competent; who have professional and occupational abilities; and who can operate practically to meet the requirements of their duties and enjoy close relations with the masses. Any mistake committed involving the three aforementioned important issues will adversely affect the political building and quality of troops in the immediate and distant future and will inevitably bear an adverse impact on troops' combat strength.

Building the Armed Forces on the basis of political building should be understood in a broad sense of building the political force of the revolution. Only when all party organizations, the administration, mass organizations at all levels, and local authorities are built firm and strong; thoroughly and correctly know and understand the viewpoints and tasks of consolidating national defense and defending the country, and the quality and duty of the Armed Forces; and satisfactorily discharge their responsibility for supporting the Army not only with manpower and material assets but also with care for its rear and its determination to win, can good conditions be created for building strong Armed Forces.

In fact, over the past few years, in building the people's firm and strong Army, we have persisted in the line of building the Army politically and have focused on the key and decisive tasks in each specific period and, thus, have actually helped ensure that the Army satisfactorily perform all its tasks in the situation of critical and complex developments. This is the most fundamental and comprehensive lesson of profound practical significance.

2. We must thoroughly understand the party nature and the practical and developmental viewpoints in all construction and combat operations of the Armed Forces. Failure to firmly grasp these viewpoints will inevitably lead to a decrease in the combat strength of the Armed Forces.

At present, our Army is the army of a country where the tasks of the period of transition to socialism are being

settled against the background of complex developments in the world situation. As a result, we must thoroughly understand the political, economic, and diplomatic lines of the party in all its policies of military building and in all operations of the Armed Forces. Throughout the past few decades, our successes in solving the problems of military science and arts to defeat the wars of aggression by big imperialists were mainly due to the fact that on the strength of the party's correct and creative revolutionary lines, we proceeded from the specific political, economic, social, and geographical conditions of our country and from the history and traditions of the Vietnamese nation to solve all military problems, especially those of military arts and organization. The experiences of our fraternal armies, primarily of the Soviet Army, were learned and acquired by our troops in the spirit of creativity. The modern weapons given by our friends were used adroitly to suit our own tactics, fighting capability, and economy, and the material and technical conditions of our battlefields, and to reflect profoundly our national traditions and bearing. As a result, we achieved both high combat efficiency and campaign results and great strategic effectiveness. We must be very creative, independent, and sovereign in the military field. At present, although our Army's equipment is, in general, ahead of our economic development level, it can definitely not be emancipated from the country's economy. We cannot demand that our Army be provided with any modern types of weapons and equipment, nor can we use the weapons and equipment on hand in the way that others normally do. We cannot build our tactics to fight the enemy on the basis of what will be obtained in the distant future. All unrealistic activities cannot succeed. In the military field as well as in other fields, successful people are those who do not act casually or moodily but who act in line with the nature and characteristics of realistic conditions based on knowledge of the laws inherent in phenomena and a certain number of processes.

Moreover, we should realize that realities develop constantly. They do not allow us to be static and to look at problems as unchanged events. On the unshakable strength of fundamental viewpoints of the military line, we should always study, detect, and foresee new things in close connection with the new socioeconomic changes in our country and the possible changes in strategic combat targets in order to solve the military and national defense problems in an independent, correct, and creative manner and in the spirit of self-reliance. Particularly, with regard to such issues as training of cadres in researching military science and technology, we should be farsighted and make adequate calculations and preparations for meeting the new requirements that will likely arise therefrom.

It is an inevitable trend for our Army to advance toward modern standardization. However, the scope, form, and steps to be used must be in line with the realities in Vietnam in each specific period, and must continue and develop the traditions and experiences accumulated

during the long struggle of our nation and Army. We absolutely should not stereotype or duplicate. We cannot be subjective and voluntaristic nor can we be conservative and empirical. Those rich experiences must be generally reviewed in an accurate and scientific manner to serve as a unified base to form and train cadres and combatants for the present as well as future generations.

[Text] 3. We should regularly consolidate and strengthen the Army-people relationship and bring it into full play as a task force of the People's Army. The People's Army is a special political force of the party, an advanced component of the worker-peasant alliance and revolutionary intelligentsia, a mainstay of proletarian dictatorship, and an Army of the laboring people and the Vietnamese nation. "Uncle Ho's soldiers", "The People's Troops" have become the nature and tradition of our Army.

The Army-people relationship is the flesh-blood and "fish-water" relationship. It is also part and parcel of the party-people relationship. As a result, the consolidation of the Army-people relationship is always a regular political duty of the Army. At a time when the enemy is intensively implementing its plot to eliminate the socialist regime and concentrating its spearhead on the objective of neutralizing party leadership through many insidious maneuvers aimed at separating the people from the party and the Army, the aforementioned task becomes all the more significant and extremely important.

The new requirements of the task of consolidating the natural Army-people relationship consist of propagation of the party and state policies and guidelines; participation in consolidating political bases and strengthening solidarity among the people, especially in targeted areas; action to assist the people in economic, cultural, and social development; promoting a sense of independence and self-reliance in overcoming difficulties in the Army itself, thereby alleviating common problems of the country and each locality; consolidating discipline and law; and maintaining political security and public order and safety.

Moreover, strengthening solidarity within Army ranks and action taken by party organizations and members and cadres to earnestly guide and assist combatants in making comprehensive progress, and to care for their material, moral, and cultural lives, making the Army really a large school to build dignity and forge ability for youths coming of age and entering life's mainstream, will also have great effect on consolidating the Army-people relationship and enhancing the people's love for and confidence in the Army and the party.

As a matter of fact, the consolidation of the Army-people relationship also aims at developing and consolidating the politico-social base of the all-people national defense and is a practical task in building the Army politically. As a result, it is necessary to renovate the knowledge,

viewpoint, scope, organization, and method in consolidating the Army-people relationship. We must be well aware of our shortcomings. We have neglected the promotion of our task force's traditions. Our failure to give proper importance to civic action has also meant neglect in cultivating the source of our own strength.

4. The key task of building a contingent of cadres must be firmly grasped. The contingent of cadres serves as the Army's core and a fundamental factor in maintaining the quality and combat strength of the Army.

The cadre task is part and parcel of the party's organization task. The formation of a contingent of party cadres in the Army must meet the requirements of perfecting the organization of leadership and command, and aim at consolidating and intensifying the party's firm leadership over the Army. It is therefore imperative to link the formation of a contingent of cadres closely with the building of party organizations, and the education, training, and management of cadres with the education and administration of party members, making party members a core among cadres. In building the contingent of Army cadres, we must emphasize both its quality and size, mainly its political quality that must be firmly controlled. All these issues manifest the class viewpoint. Failure to grasp them and any error in their implementation will lead to no small harmful consequences.

Realities over the past few years have indicated that there must be correct viewpoints and mechanisms in building the contingent of cadres. Since the cadre task is a party task, a mechanism must be built to ensure strictly the principles of collective leadership by party committees, of making decisions on the basis of broad democracy, and of promoting functional agencies' high sense of responsibility in helping party committees consider and select cadres in accordance with the party line. We should positively overcome the ills of perfunctory democracy which is, in fact, individualism, and of arbitrariness which still prevail in this or that locality or at this or that echelon.

In building the contingent of cadres, we must aim to meet the political requirements and tasks in the immediate future and must simultaneously pay attention to long-term preparations to ensure that the Army can always remain steadfast politically and develop its fine nature and traditions under all circumstances. The formulation and implementation of cadre plans must fulfill the requirements of renovating the contingent on the basis of ensuring steady continuity in the process of transition. There should be a consistent attitude toward considering, evaluating, and employing cadres to avoid placing emphasis on this and that aspect (educational background, age, contributions, and so forth)

Along with training and employing cadres, we must care for their livelihood and that of their families in the rear. We must emphatically protect and ensure the cleanliness

of the contingent of cadres, prevent politically unqualified people from joining the contingent, and educate and forge cadres well in order to avoid losses through degeneration in quality, ethics, and lifestyle. This is a very realistic and pressing issue.

We must pay the utmost attention to creating a source of cadres with guaranteed quality in keeping with the real situation of the country, the requirements and tasks of the Army, and the formulation of cadre contingent plans for the new situation. We must preserve, thriftily use, and treasure the sources of cadres who have been forged, trained, and tested through combat and work in hardship and dangerous areas, and the source of ethnic minority cadres by educating them on ideals, giving them vocational training, and fostering their culture and health so that they can have confidence and the ability to join officer schools. Realities have shown that it is impossible to have ready sources of fully qualified cadres for the present and in the near future without taking pains to form and train cadres and create sources and without proper investment.

5. We must intensify steady, absolute, direct, and comprehensive party leadership over the Army. This is the most fundamental, important, and decisive issue in consolidating the working class nature and in building the army politically to ensure that under all circumstances the party can firmly control the armed forces and that the armed forces remain always a reliable political and combat force loyal to the socialist regime and absolutely obedient to party leadership.

The party will not share its leadership over the Army with any organization, and will exercise its direct leadership over the Army through a network of party organizations from the Army level down to the primary unit level. Party committees at all levels are dutybound to provide comprehensive leadership over all units within their jurisdiction in accordance with the scope, function, and assignment prescribed for each echelon.

Realities in history have shown that the party's political lines, viewpoints, and principles must always be guaranteed by organizational principles and must be manifested by realistic activities and a mechanism of correct leadership.

The party statutes assert: "Leading organs of party organizations must strictly comply with the principle of democratic centralization and exercise collective leadership along with individual assignment." (Article 38) This means that no peculiarities in the organization and operation of the Army can be alleged to violate the party's organizational and operational principles.

Experience has also clearly indicated that party leadership must be necessarily intensified through building and developing the operational effectiveness of the leadership mechanism. A correct and suitable mechanism will ensure strict compliance with political and organizational principles and the building of a contingent of

leading cadres who have high political awareness, comprehensive ability, and good leadership bearing. On the contrary, an incorrect mechanism will weaken and even eliminate all principles and will develop arbitrariness and dictatorship among those cadres and party members who have weak political awareness.

Correct and austere resolutions only constitute the primary basic factor in deciding leadership effectiveness. Whether or not and how they will enter into life and what will be the practical results depends on the real organizational task. As a result, in the implementation of party committee resolutions, the activities of components in the mechanism (party organizations, command cadres, and political cadres and organs) must harmoniously correspond with the functions and stipulations of the prescribed system. We should struggle to overcome troubles and conflicts caused by "individualistic power" and periodically review preliminarily the implementation of regulations and work systems.

Consolidating leadership principles and perfecting leadership mechanisms constitute the bases for raising the level of leadership, militancy, and leadership effectiveness of party organizations; for qualitatively enhancing the contingent of party members; and for strengthening the close relations between party organizations and members and the masses.

The above-mentioned experiences are not new. They were fundamentally and generally reviewed through the course of combat and growth of our Army during the two resistance struggles against France and the United States. In the past 15 years, against a rather complex background, these experiences—though considered outdated at certain moments—still proved their vigorous vitality as they have been supplemented by many new factors. It can be asserted that they have become principled experiences and binding issues compelling us to follow and apply them creatively and to develop them. In the future, especially in the next decade, it is certain that the world situation will continue to develop complicatedly. At a time when imperialists and reactionaries still continue their plot to wipe out socialism, it is inadvisable and impossible that we vacillate over these issues because if we do we will have to pay an immeasurably dear cost.

The ideological bases and viewpoints of these principles are the class property, party nature, realistic and developmental viewpoints, and theoretical bases of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh ideology, and party documents. Only by always studying thoroughly these ideological bases, viewpoints, and theories can we consolidate in principle our firmness and vigorously develop our creativity to build the Army in the socialist renovation process of our country and our people.

Australia

Hawke Explains Stand on Kurdish Refugees in Iraq

BK0904091691 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] The Australian Government is considering the proposal that a safe enclave should be created in northern Iraq to protect Kurdish refugees fleeing from Iraqi Government forces. The prime minister, Mr. Hawke, told a meeting of his ruling Australian Labor Party that Australia would support any practical and internally acceptable proposal to help the Kurds. However, he added that a number of questions need to be answered, including whether the proposal will have United Nations support, should be imposed by military force, and would have resulted in the dismemberment of Iraq. [sentence as heard]

Meanwhile, the government has decided to provide \$1 million in emergency aid to help the Kurds, with half going to the International Red Cross and half going to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. However, a spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Department said \$1 million allocated to help the Kurds would exhaust the present Australian emergency relief budget.

Hawke Says Creation of Republic 'Inevitable'

BK0704090191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT
7 Apr 91

[By Tim Cribb]

[Text] Sydney, April 7 (AFP)—Australia's prime minister and many of its leading judges have agreed the time has come to break ties with Britain and overhaul the Constitution promulgated 90 years ago.

Bob Hawke told the constitutional centenary conference, which met here last week to mark 1891 deliberations leading to federation, that an Australian republic was "inevitable."

But the prime minister said such a move would have little impact on the daily lives of Australian citizens.

Australia has already dismantled most of the framework tying it to Britain—the right of legal appeal to the privy council in London was ended in the early 1970s and imperial honours such as knighthoods have been scrapped.

Mr. Hawke said the creation of a republic would be hurtful to many people, particularly those of British descent who regard the monarchy with affection.

Steady immigration has changed the cultural face and ethnic mix of Australia since World War II.

"For an increasing number of the Australian population I think there is probably a feeling that Australia should, in all its constitutional and legal apparatus, be seen to be, and in fact be, totally independent," Mr. Hawke said.

"I think it is something that will and should come to make Australians absolutely understand that we are a completely sovereign independent nation," Mr. Hawke said.

The prime minister's address late Friday echoed views expressed at the conference by the nation's leading judges, who said the time had come to break ties with England and overhaul the Constitution promulgated in 1901.

That document, establishing Australia as a commonwealth of six states and two territories, has remained largely unchanged, despite attempts by successive governments to introduce amendments by a cumbersome process of referendum.

For an amendment to be successful at referendum—and only eight of 42 have been—it is necessary to secure a majority of votes in a majority of states.

Mr. Hawke set no deadline for an Australian republic, but his remarks were made in the context of majority support among delegates to break links with the monarchy by 2001.

Conservative opposition leader John Hewson said the link with the crown had worked well in that it had not impeded Australia's progress, and despite pressures to become a republic, he did not think it was inevitable.

At the crux of republican sentiment is the fact that the queen of England, Elizabeth II, is also queen of Australia.

The governor-general, who is her representative as head of state under the Constitution, is appointed rather than elected like a president, although his role is ostensibly ceremonial.

He must sign any legislation from parliament before it can become law, a process which is usually automatic, and it is to him the elected party must go before it can form a government.

But Sir John Kerr, who died last month, caused severe divisions when he used his position as governor-general to sack the elected government of Gough Whitlam in 1975 and install a conservative caretaker regime until elections could be held.

The incumbent head of state, Bill Hayden, former foreign minister to Mr. Hawke, is an avowed republican.

Should Australia become a republic, it would join 26 others in the commonwealth of nations, a free association of 49 English-speaking former British colonies which recognise the queen as head of that grouping.

The British colonised Australia in 1788 as a convict settlement, displacing the nomadic aborigines, who did not gain constitutional recognition and the right to vote until a referendum in 1968.

A statement released at the end of the conference proposed that aborigines and Torres Strait islanders receive constitutional recognition as the indigenous peoples of Australia as part of a process of reconciliation.

Other issues raised in the statement included defining the powers and selection of the head of state, as well as the need to a guarantee of basic democratic rights, such as the right to free speech and assembly, which do not exist.

The Australia, a national daily, Saturday described the review as "encouraging" but said: "The obstacles to reform are immense."

The editorial noted that a survey conducted five years ago revealed only 60 per cent of Australians knew a constitution existed.

Sharp Rise in Exports Trims Trade Deficit

BK0804104091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0855 GMT
8 Apr 91

[Text] Sydney, April 8 (AFP)—A sharp jump in exports helped reduce Australia's current account deficit to 1.23 billion dollars (960 million U.S.) in February from 1.92 billion dollars (1.5 billion U.S.) in January, according to data released Monday.

The latest figure, which compared with 1.20 billion dollars in February 1990, was below market expectations, which ranged from 1.3 billion dollars (1.0 billion U.S.) to 1.7 billion dollars (1.3 billion U.S.).

Seasonally adjusted, the deficit was 1.43 billion dollars (1.12 billion) compared to 1.64 billion dollars (1.29 billion) in January and 1.43 billion 12 months previously, the Bureau of Statistics said.

The bureau said imports had increased to 4.45 billion dollars (3.48 billion U.S.) from 4.25 billion dollars (3.32 billion U.S.) in January and 4.17 billion dollars (3.26 billion U.S.) in February 1990.

Unadjusted, exports rose to 4.27 billion (3.34 billion U.S.) from 4.13 billion dollars (3.23 billion U.S.) the previous month, while imports fell to 3.98 billion dollars (3.11 billion U.S.) from 4.31 billion dollars (3.37 billion U.S.).

Treasurer Paul Keating said the narrowing of the seasonally-adjusted current account deficit to 1.43 billion dollars in February reflected the steady progress Australia was making in overcoming its trade imbalance.

He described as "particularly encouraging" the continued strength of exports, which increased by five per cent to the highest monthly result on record.

Mr. Keating said this was despite weak commodity prices for rural products such as wheat and wool, and reflected the "very good" performance of non-rural exports.

"Because export volumes have grown so strongly over recent years, Australia now has a rising share of world trade, particularly for manufactures," he added.

Mr. Keating told journalists the 1990-91 budget forecast of an 18 billion dollar (14 billion U.S.) current account deficit looked achievable.

The unadjusted merchandise trade balance was 290 million dollars (226 million U.S.) in surplus after a 176 million dollar (137 million U.S.) deficit in January, and compared with a 196 million dollar (153 million U.S.) surplus a year ago.

Adjusted, the trade balance was 178 million dollars (139 million U.S.) in surplus, compared with a 42 million dollar (33 million U.S.) surplus in January and a 90 million dollar (70 million U.S.) surplus a year ago.

The cumulative current account deficit for the first eight months of fiscal 1990-91 stood at 12 billion dollars (9.4 billion U.S.), compared with 15.5 billion dollars (12 billion U.S.) a year earlier.

The Commonwealth Bank said the February balance of payments result suggested that "weak domestic demand conditions are slowly feeding through into improvement in the current account."

It warned, however, that care should be taken not to read too much into one month's figures.

Papua New Guinea

Prime Minister To Seek Aid During PRC Visit

BK0904062491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0457 GMT
9 Apr 91

[Text] Port Moresby, April 9 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Rabble Namaliu said Tuesday he would seek increased development aid, investment and trade during a visit to China this week.

Mr. Namaliu is scheduled to arrive in Beijing Thursday for a five-day visit, which is to include meetings with President Yang Shangkun and Premier Li Peng.

The visit should help strengthen relations between Papua New Guinea and China, Mr. Namaliu said in a statement.

Papua New Guinea is also to seek an interest-free loan from China for development projects over the next five years, and other bilateral issues are to be discussed, the statement said.

"I intend to reaffirm my government's commitment to our relations with the People's Republic of China and exchange views with my counterpart on important bilateral, regional and international issues which affect our two countries," said Mr. Namaliu.

In view of mature relations between Port Moresby and Beijing, he would conclude an investment, promotion and protection agreement for Papua New Guinea, Mr. Namaliu said.

"Chinese investment is encouraged, particularly in downstream processing-type joint ventures," he said.

"Utilising local raw materials and labour and Chinese expertise, such an agreement holds enough benefit for PNG and consequently I give priority to it."

Mr. Namaliu said he would seek Chinese support for Foreign Minister Sir Michael Somare's candidacy for the United Nations General Assembly Presidency, and hoped Mr. Li Peng would indicate his government's formal support during the visit.

The visit is to be Mr. Namaliu's first to China, although his predecessors, Sir Michael and Pias Wingti, both visited China, a major buyer of Papua New Guinea Copper.

Prime Minister Leaves for PRC

*BK0904104691 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 9 Apr 91*

[Excerpt] Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Mr. Rabbie Namaliu, left Port Moresby today on his way to an official visit to China. Mr. Namaliu and his 16-member delegation will arrive in Beijing on Thursday for the five-day visit—his first as prime minister to China. [passage omitted]

Minister Calls Mining Firm 'Unrealistic'

*BK0904065091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0535 GMT
9 Apr 91*

[Text] Port Moresby, April 9 (AFP)—Foreign Affairs Minister Sir Michael Somare has accused the Australian mining giant, CRA LTD., of being unrealistic in what he suggested was the firm's refusal to sell its stake in Bougainville Copper Ltd. (BCL).

In the strongest statement against CRA by any government official since the Bougainville crisis began, Sir Michael said the firm was refusing to accept that Papua New Guinea was an independent and sovereign nation.

"CRA has to be realistic," he said in the statement, released Monday.

"Whether it likes it or not, the question of the future of the mine has to be addressed and if the majority of

Bougainvilleans do not want CRA and BCL to reopen the mine, then obviously a new investor has to come in," the statement said.

He said the company's stand reflected its past attitude towards the people of Papua New Guinea.

"Unfortunately, CRA cannot accept that this is an independent and sovereign nation and its leaders decide how things are done in this country," Sir Michael said.

CRA said, however, that it had not received any offer for its stake in the mine and would be willing to discuss it with the government.

The company also questioned whether the pressure to sell is coming from the government as a whole or if Sir Michael is acting unilaterally.

Sir Michael has been actively seeking a buyer for CRA's 53 per cent stake in BCL, operator of the Panguna copper mine, which has been closed for about a year by the bloody secessionist uprising on Bougainville.

Negotiations have taken place with Chicago-based investor Jay Pritzker, but CRA said Mr. Pritzker had not made an offer, either formally or informally.

It denied reports last week that Mr. Pritzker was offering 700 million dollars for the CRA stake.

CRA has repeatedly stated it wants to reopen the mine but would be prepared to sell for the right price if the government felt such a move was required for a final political resolution of the Bougainville conflict.

CRA Minerals (PNG) Proprietary Limited Managing Director Ian Johnson repeated that position Tuesday and said CRA was continuing to study the technical problems associated with reopening the huge open-cut mine at Panguna.

Mr. Johnson also rejected Sir Michael's charge that the company was refusing to accept Papua New Guinea was an independent and sovereign nation.

In his statement, Sir Michael said CRA could help the government find a solution to the secessionist crisis on Bougainville Island, which is about 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) north-east of Port Moresby.

"However, if it intends to make a possible solution that much (more) difficult, then I leave it to the people of this country and the wider community of this region and throughout the world to make their judgments," he said.

Sir Michael rejected comments by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) that it was premature to discuss the ownership of the mine before a political solution had been reached.